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No. 3.

Farmers Convention.

The 10th annual convention of the farmers of Montgomery county, Md., assembled at 10 o'clock, on the 12th of January, 1882, at the Sandy Spring Lyceum. The unfavorable condition of the roads as contrasted with the splendid sleighing enjoyed at this time last year, would, it was feared, prevent so full an attendance as usual. The event however proved that the interest taken in the convention is independent of such obstacles, since the county was never better nor more largely represented, nor were the proceedings ever of more general interest. Visitors from the adjoining counties of both Maryland and Virginia contributed to the pleasure and instruction of the day.

The President, Mr. Henry C. Hallowell, opened the meeting with an address which drew attention both to the pleasures and duties of a farmer's life. He alluded to the convention as one of the resting places by the wayside, where we exchange a friendly greeting and review the work of the past year. We may think, he said, that our business is dull and plodding, but some of the brightest minds find scope for their vast faculties in solving the problems that come before us.

M. Parteur's wonderful discovery of inoculation against cattle disease in France, instanced what thoughtful investigation could accomplish. The object of the convention he said was two-fold—to learn practical lessons, and of equal importance to bring people together. That man who lives to himself alone cannot begin to appreciate life. He closed by hoping that we would separate with increased regard for one another and with a renewed wish to make our calling higher and better.

The first business was the report of the

committee appointed last year, upon railroad crossings. Wm. John Thomas, the chairman, read an admirable paper, stating that after continued effort the committee had at last succeeded in having flagmen stationed at the crossings at Silver Spring and Rockville.

A report by Mr. Albert Chandler, upon Hog Thistle, Horse Nettle or Jerusalem Apple was read and started a lively discussion together with a good deal of merriment. The general verdict was that it is the most villainous and tenacious weed known to agriculture. It was thought that most injury could be done to it by cutting just before the berries form.

Edward P. Thomas read a paper, giving his experience with ensilage during the past year. He strongly advocates this new method of saving feed, and in the discourse which followed several smaller experiments were reported, all agreeing with Mr. Thomas as to the value of the system. Robert F. Roberts, of Fairfax county, Va., who, last year told us of his experiment with ensilage, having at that time the first sample of it ever seen in Sandy Spring, arrived during the discussion and confirmed what had been said. He stated that he had preserved twice as much fodder this year as last and that the success of the French discovery was no longer a question.

Mr. John M. Smith introduced the subject of ground lime stone, and had a number of testimonials read which showed surprising results from its use. No one present had tried it, but a car load was ordered and Mr. Smith was appointed a committee of one to report next year.

Abstracts of the year's proceedings of the three clubs of Sandy Spring were read, the following being some of the most striking features:

SENIOR CLUB.—“The National Grange at its late meeting in Washington, avowed the confession that a mistake had been made in putting all their strength upon one main principle, which was co-operation. Important as this is, co-operation alone cannot build up a grand national institution in the United States of America. There is another principle and power needed. It is in and by education, added to co-operation that the great work can be accomplished. It is indeed the truth that agriculture seriously lacks a system of education adapted to its real needs, when such culture becomes the possession of farmers generally, we shall not hear complaints of the uncertainty and unreliability of their experience, nor of the disrespectful and contemptuous language now so commonly applied to our fraternity. In referring to the proceedings of our club, now just thirty-eight years old, it is proper to mention that in the case of four of its members there has been a change of position, the son having taken the place of the father in the active operation of the farm. Our Secretary writes of the meeting first in my present report as follows: ‘This tendency of our members to turn over the home-stead to a younger generation is another indication of advancing years, but, though the hair of some is silvered, and there has been a sad break in our ranks, we find our hearts but drawn closer together, and we meet with greater affection and interest. The room in which we were sitting was a perpetual reminder of what a beautiful world we inhabit, for the large and sunny bay window was a mass of color, the pink, and red and white of the many blooming plants contrasting with the various shades of green. Our venerable club, you see, is very sensitive to beauty in all its forms. But it is time to confine ourselves to the practical. The first question I note was this—Does it pay to haul straw to town at sixty cents per cwt. The answering vote was equally divided. We were led to a young orchard of apple trees, that were, in fact, utterly destroyed by rabbits during the last winter. Our members are mostly opposed to sowing clover in the snow, nearly all agree that the right time to sow upon growing wheat is indicated by the cracked condition of the soil, whether it comes in February, March or April. In regard to ensilage each wish that his neigh-

bor would make a trial of it. Hedges are being more and more used. In the second year the advice was to cut off and not bend over. The best sheep pasture had not been plowed for 25 years. Millet seemed to be growing in favor last year. The question of a dog-law coming up, it was stated that 800 sheep had been killed in a place of moderate extent, within two years. Experiments had proved the great advantage of deepening ice houses. The last enterprise noted in the club books was the subscription for 6 tons of ground lime stone to come from Hagerstown.

CROP SUMMARY OF THE SENIOR CLUB.

	acres.	per acre.
Wheat	289	18 bushels.
Corn	254	8 barrels.
Oats	40	28 bushels.
Hay	281	1 ton.
Potatoes	40	80 bushels.
Hogs	111	170 lb. head.

W. H. F.”

ENTERPRISE CLUB.—“The Enterprise Club as a society, is fast approaching maturity. She has just passed her 16th summer and is as sprightly as any belle of that age.

CROP SUMMARY OF ENTERPRISE CLUB.

	acres.	per acre.
Wheat	421	17 $\frac{1}{4}$ bushels.
Corn	307	61.10 bbl.
Oats	17	35 bushels.
Hay	276	11.6 tons.
Potatoes	81 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$ bushels.
Hogs	168	160 lb. head.
Apples, sold 298 bbls. worth \$626.		
Butter—9376 lbs.		
Cream—570 gals.		

One member reports 2280 lbs. of butter from 11 cows, 207 1.5 lbs., per cow.

E. S. S.”

MONTGOMERY CLUB.—“From the 15th of January, 1881, to the 7th of January, 1882, the Montgomery Club has held 14 meetings, with an average attendance of 14 out of 15 members. It is the custom to have at each meeting an essay written upon some agricultural subject appropriate to the season of the year. The mere fact of exchanging ideas seems to bring forth something that the attentive listener can learn from,

One of the most important discussions we have had during the season was the extent of abortion among our dairy herds. So far, we have failed to find a cause much less a remedy for the fearful disease that seems to be gradually and resistlessly spreading. The hay crop does not increase owing partly to the mistake of grazing the land too close on our dairy farms, and the practice of selling too much off where we have not the stock to feed.

CROP SUMMARY.

	acres.	per acre.
Wheat	560	18 bushels.
Corn	410	7½ bbls.
Hay	190	1½ tons.
Potatoes	104	88½ bushels
Hogs	271	178 lbs. hd.
Butter sold—	13,750 lbs.	
Cream—	2338 gals.	

ROGER BROOKE.

The discussion of the published questions followed in order.

1. Are barbed wire fences desirable?

A lively debate ensued upon this question. Some instances were given of damage done to stock by the barbs, but the balance of testimony as proved by the vote, was largely in favor of their use.

2. What is the best style of reapers taking into consideration the size of the farm?

It was decided that a self-binder will pay upon all farms of over 150 acres; under that size a less expensive machine will be most economical.

3. How much permanent pasture is profitable upon a dairy farm of 100 acres?

Some contended that no permanent pasture pays, but a majority decided that about ten acres would be best upon such a farm.

4. Are the benefits to be derived from a railroad passing through our farming community so great as to compensate for the injury and inconvenience?

It was agreed that to have a railroad pass through your neighbor's land would be a great benefit to the community.

5. Can an effective and practicable law be devised for the preservation of sheep from dogs?

This question as usual, occasioned the expression of a great many strong and conflicting views. The best practical suggestion was that of Asa M. Stabler, viz., that all dogs should be required to wear

collars and tags, renewable each year at a suitable price. All those found without such collars to be killed. Upon motion a committee was appointed to draft such a law as will meet the case, to be forwarded to our delegates.

The 6th question was referred to the Convention of 1883.

7. Would it be advisable to have a county treasurer.

There were one or two speeches in support of the present guerilla system of collecting taxes, but a large majority favored the business-like, dignified plan of a treasurer at the county seat. This is one of those reforms which the increased enlightenment of the county will soon require.

The hour of meeting next year was fixed at 10 A. M.

At sundown the convention adjourned.

At 12 M. a committee of ladies in the neighborhood had prepared and served a most bountiful lunch in the school-house near by, for which a rising vote of thanks was tendered upon re-assembling in the Hall."

HENRY C. HALLOWELL.
President.

ALLAN FARQUHAR. } Secretaries.
CHAS. F. KIRK. }

Farm Work for March.

This month farm work fairly begins. It is more than probable, from the weather during our past unusually mild winter, that we shall be favored with an early spring, and if so, every farmer should be ready to embrace the opportunity to get ahead with his spring work. Plowing ought to be done whenever the ground is in order.—Plow deep on rich soils, but shallow when a poor strata is reached turning up not more than an inch of the sterile clay to mix with the top soil. But we advise sub-soiling all such land that requires shallow plowing, and we would also sub-soil all ground where the bottom of the furrow is compact and hard, that the roots of plants shall meet with as little difficulty as possible in their progress in search of food. We like early plowing, because it gives time to disintegrate the soil and destroy the weeds as they appear, by frequent harrowing. This harrowing, after the first operation, is light work and by the destruction of the weeds, saves much future labor of cultivation, and favors the early growth of the crops. The principal work for the month may be stated as follows:

Tobacco.

Finish sowing tobacco seed. During seasonable weather continue the preparation for market the crop that is in the barns; condition it chiefly in bulks; look well to them that the tobacco becomes not heated. If they get warm, rebuild it immediately and do not restore the weights upon it until it has become aired and cool. Admit the air and sun on all clear, pleasant days, but close the houses tight during stormy or windy weather. Assort the crop well when stripping, and keep each sort separate when conditioning and packing. Do not have the bundles too large, and have the leaves as straight and outspread as possible. Once bulked in proper shape each bundle or hank will retain the neat appearance until it is inspected and sold. Much depends upon the neatness and care bestowed, as to the value the buyer puts on it.

Oats.

The soil best suited to the oat crop is a deep, rich and heavy loam, inclining to clay rather than sand. The composition of the oat, both grain and straw, show that potash and phosphates are essential to the vigorous growth of this cereal, therefore manures used should be rich in potash, and phosphoric acid. The land ought to be well prepared.

Time of sowing.—We repeat: the earlier the oats can be seeded when the frost is out of the ground, and the soil is in condition to receive them, the better will be the probable yield.

Quantity of seed to the acre.—Sow from two to three bushels to the acre, according to the quality of the land. Spread broadcast and harrow in.—Grass seed may then follow immediately, which should be bushed or lightly harrowed in, and the work finished off with the roller.

Sowing Clover Seed.

If the clover seed to be sown on winter grain was not seeded on the snow in February, as may sometimes be done to advantage, let the seeding be done as early in March as possible. It is a good practice to harrow in with a light harrow, and follow immediately with the roller. Where this cannot be done the seed has to take its chances, and more seed is required.

Quantity of clover seed to the acre.—Not less than a peck of clover seed should be used if the clover is to be sown alone, and indeed if orchard grass is also to be seeded in the same ground, a peck of clover seed will not be found too much. The quantity of orchard grass usually seeded to the acre is a bushel. On good soil it is too little, as it is apt to grow in bunches, instead of forming a close mat as it ought to do as the clover dies

out. At least half a bushel extra could be used to advantage, and it is best to moisten the seed before broadcasting it, but the seedling should even then be done in damp weather.

Plastering clover fields.—Fields that are already set in clover, should have a bushel of plaster to each acre now scattered over them.

Manure.

Haul out the manure as fast as it is rotted sufficient, and spread it as fast as can be hauled out on the land intended for corn. The manure, if coarse, plowed under, when the ground is fit to plow, and if fine, or well decomposed, may be spread on the land already plowed, and the harrow will intermix it with the soil.

Plaster and Salt on Clover and Wheat.

Sow, if possible one bushel of plaster on young clover and wheat, and 3 to 5 bushels of salt per acre. The same dressing will be of benefit to the oat and rye crops, and to the pasture fields. We have seen the most happy results from the mixture of a bushel of plaster and 5 bushels of salt, sown per acre, on old pasture fields and on grain crops.

Orchards.

Many horticulturalists believe that May or June is the best time to trim orchard trees, as



then the wounds heal over quickly, but as that is usually so busy a time, that if the farmer does not trim his trees during the more leisure months, they will likely be neglected, so therefore let the work be done at once. Protect the large wounds from the air and sun by a mixture of cow manure and clay, or a coat of varnish. A good implement for tree pruning is one the cut of which we give.

Painting orchards and shrubbery.—New orchards, shrubbery, small fruits, &c., may be planted out this month if the weather and ground be right for such work. Get catalogues from reliable nurserymen and make good selections of such as you know would do well in your neighborhood, and buy a few of the newer and higher priced sorts to experiment with.

Stock, Cattle, Sheep, &c.

Milch cows, heifers, working animals and sheep require special attention during this month.

Early Potatoes.

In the Middle States, and certainly south of Pennsylvania, the earliest planted potatoes generally yield the largest crops. The reason of this is that they need in the first stages of their growth, coolness and moisture. Later plantings are also necessary, as the earlier potatoes, if kept too long in the soil, often take on a second growth. But in spite of this disadvantage it is well to plant early, and as a precaution to plow deep and plant deep—six inches. The two requisites of coolness and moisture are thus at least partially secured, and if a drought should come, the potato plants are better able to withstand it. But above all, the soil must be made light and loose. Too light and loose it can scarcely be—and it must contain those constituents in which the potato delights—especially an ample supply of potash. If this is not in the soil it must be furnished by wood ashes, or by the potash of commerce. Lay off the furrows two feet and a half apart, and eight inches deep. In these spread well rotted manure and wood ashes. Cut the sets from large and well matured potatoes; sprinkle plaster over them and plant as soon as possible thereafter. Some leave them in the barn to dry, and the practice would be a good one if they were not left there often so long that the sets shrivel, and a considerable part of the eye is thus lost. When the plants come up, broadcast over them to each acre, four bushels of wood ashes mixed with a bushel of plaster. As soon as they appear, run a harrow across the rows or loosen the soil with a hoe. Keep at all times the soil light and loose and keep down weeds, earthing up with the shovel plow from time to time.

The popular sorts for early potatoes are the Early Rose and the Hebron, and for later and late winter sorts to be planted in May, we have the Peach Blow and the Peerless. In planting potatoes we would recommend that some of the new sorts be annually tried on a small scale, say, plant a peck or a bushel of each new kind you buy and see if, under the same treatment, they are more profitable than the older sorts that you have grown. Among the many new sorts highly recommended are the White Star, strongly eulogised by Ferry & Co., as earlier than the Rose, of fine quality and prolific.

The Early Ohio and the Snow Flake are also popular as early varieties. Of the Beauty of Hebron we can speak from actual trial, in the highest terms. Those we grew were not attacked by the bugs, though the early Rose was badly used by them, growing only a few feet from the

Hebron. Why this was so we do not know, unless it was that the vines grew most vigorously and we dusted them twice heavily with British Mixture and dissolved bone. Those novelties for winter potatoes which are among the most lauded by their respective god-fathers, are Burbank's seedling, Pride of America, Mammoth Pearl, and Thorburn's "White Elephant," a huge, white, late potato, said to be very excellent for table and market, and very profitable to grow.

Fences.

Examine these and see that they are in proper repair.

Garden Work for March.

A well conducted garden is a necessity for every rural home. It is an economical luxury—a comparatively cheap comfort and an interesting and profitable appendage to home pleasures and requirements. It is a source of health and enjoyment to every member of the family household. To have a garden suitable to the number of the members of a family, requires but a small space well enclosed. The expense in money, time and labor is comparatively small in proportion to the value of the products grown. The chief requisites are a deep, rich alluvial soil with Southern exposure if possible. If the ground requires it, underdrain thoroughly. Have no large trees in it. If the soil is sterile, enrich it with fertilizers and well rotted stable manure. If the soil is stiff clay, cultivate deeply and treat it with heavy applications of sand and coarse manure, wood's earth, &c., to change the character of the ground, rendering it lighter and more friable. Water should be convenient, in case, drought required artificial showering of the plants.

Of course there should be in each garden a portion set apart for a full supply of the best varieties of all sorts of small fruits, unless these have a place in the orchard or some other part of the farm. To the small fruits our attention is first drawn this month. The bush fruits, such as currants, &c., ought to be trimmed, thinned, shortened and arranged for the year, by tying up, or trained to trellises, &c., worked about, manured and mulched with straw or leaves. The strawberry beds cleaned off and the plants regulated; the beds forked up, manured with well rotted manure. This need not be done before the last of the month. Refer to what was said last month in MARYLAND FARMER about these small fruits.

In the vegetable garden, asparagus beds should be cleaned off, manure forked in and a dressing of salt given.

Early Peas.—As soon as the frost is out of the ground, prepare a bed for early peas. Choose a warm exposure at this season, although as the season advances, the coolest spot in the garden must be selected for the later supplies of peas. Make the drills, as many as are needed for an early supply, two feet apart,—sow the peas along the drills, cover them well with earth and press the soil to them with the back of the spade.—When the peas are a few inches high, give them more earth, and proceed to stick them.

The Tom Thumb is a good early pea, very dwarf, rows need not be more than 12 inches apart, but the "Little Gem," grows 1 foot high, has always been a great favorite of ours. Bliss' American Wonder Pea, is really a wonder. Its low growth, prolificness, large size and extra quality, entitles it to the first rank. It is a new variety and as yet is costly, but it would be well to try a quart or so of them. They may be planted in rows as close together as early beets or onions, say 8 inches apart. It was illustrated and described last year in the Maryland Farmer. For truckers or those who grow for market we know of no better pea for early sowing than the Canada Kent Pea. Of later sorts we shall speak in our April number.

Plants in frames.—Give these plenty of air in moderate weather, and water them of evenings with tepid water.

Bunch Beans.—Plant a few rows of bunch beans

Early Spinach.—Make the soil very rich, and drill in a few rows of spinach—make the drills twelve inches apart, and in point of depth, about an inch.

Carrots, Parsnips and Beets.—Choose for early crops of these roots, a warm and well protected part of the garden. The soil should be rich and not freshly manured, so far at least, as the carrots and parsnips are concerned, or they will be apt to grow forked and fibrous. The beets will be benefited by a dressing of salt, and like a compacter soil than the carrot and parsnip. The rows for carrots and parsnips may be made from 12 to 15 inches apart, and for beets, from 18 to 24 inches, although many gardeners plant these roots much closer. Cover the seed with a rake and press the earth about them with the back of a spade.

Small Salading.—Sow small salading at intervals of a week a part during the month.

Onion Seed.—Drill in onion seed this month, as early as the ground admits.

Early Potatoes.—Set these in as early as possible. See farm work in this number.

Rhubarb or Pie Plant.—Set out plants, or new beds be formed for raising plants from the seed.

♦♦♦
For the Maryland Farmer.

Sources of Nitrogen.

NUMBER TWO.

In the West Indies a species of pea is sometimes sown and ploughed into the land, with the view of restoring the fertility removed from the soil by the growth of the sugar cane.

In the Southern States of America this crop is also used for the same purpose; while in the Northern States I believe that clover is more generally employed.

In various parts of Europe where the demand for meat does not exist, some leguminous plant is sown and the crop plowed in; while in those districts where animal products are in demand the crop is consumed by stock.

There is a universal concurrence of opinion that by all these processes fertility is restored to land which has been exhausted by the removal of previous crops. It is a fact well known to chemists that leguminous plants contain a much higher percentage of nitrogen than cereal crops; it is not very surprising therefore that the benefit which was obtained from this class of plants should have been attributed to the property which they are said to possess of abstracting nitrogen from the atmosphere.

Assuming that they may have this property, there will still be no harm in our looking at the subject from another point of view, and considering whether the beneficial operations produced by these crops may not be attributed to the action that goes on in the soil.

When once it is accepted as an established fact that nitric acid is constantly being liberated and washed out of all cultivated soils, it will be quite evident that a long-lived and deep rooted plant like the red clover must have an advantage in arresting this passing nitrogen, over plants which have a short life and whose roots run close to the surface.

But this explanation fails when we come to study the restorative action of the pea crop employed in the Southern States, which, if I am not mistaken is sown in the

spring, and plowed in autumn.

One of the benefits of this crop is said to be that its dense foliage serves to keep the land moist.

By experiments conducted in my laboratory at Rothamsted, we found that the conversion of organic nitrogen into nitric acid increased with the temperature up to 80 or 90 F., *provided the soil was sufficiently moist*. Here then we have the first requisite for nitrification provided by the pea crop.

I may say that without the aid of vegetation nitrification would almost cease during the summer in hot climates. But then this property of shading the ground would be common to any other plant having broad leaves; and it does not touch what is supposed to be the special property of the leguminous plants, the restoration of fertility to the soil.

If I were to attempt to define the distinction which exists between the cereal crops and the leguminous crops, generally, as it occurs to my mind, I should say that the cereal crops have the greater power of obtaining or liberating from the soil, the mineral good which they require for their use; while the leguminous crops possess more power of liberating the nitrogenous food which they require from the same source.

The property of feeding upon silicate of potash, possessed by the graminous plants generally, gives them an advantage of which they are not slow to avail themselves when the two classes of plants are brought into competition, and this is especially apparent when these two classes are grown separately upon the same soil.

Instead of silicic acid, we find in the leguminous plants a vegetable acid formed by the plant, and we may suppose that by means of this acid potash and lime are dissolved.

Whether leguminous plants decompose silicate of potash and return the silica to the soil, or whether they only take up some other compounds of potash from the soil, is unknown.

Our experiments at Rothamsted go so far as to show that their powers of obtaining potash from the soil are far superior to those of the cereal crops; and further that they are much more benefitted by an artificial supply of potash than the cereal crops.

In a soil where the necessary minerals are not deficient, we may therefore suppose that a pea crop would have the power of liberating and taking up from the soil compounds of nitrogen, and that there, having assumed the form of *legumin asparagin*, and other nitrogenous bodies in the crop, during their decay underground are converted into nitric acid.

We have generally found considerable amounts of nitric acid in the soils where clover has been grown; but whether this nitric acid is due to the decomposed parts of the plant; or is the effect of nitrification due to the shade, and consequent retention of moisture by the plant, it is impossible to say.

When the capacity of the various plants for liberating food from the soil is more clearly understood, the explanation will probably be found of a good deal in the economy of farming of which we are at present ignorant.

In one of our fields at Rothamsted where several other varieties of leguminous plants have been grown—though without showing much luxuriance—we have failed to grow red clover continuously, even where the plant was liberally supplied with minerals. Recent analyses of the soil in this field give evidence of a very considerable decline in the amount of nitrogen, which we have reason to think it contained when first placed under experiment in 1848.

In saying that we have reason to think, I must explain that we have analyses of the soil, made shortly after the time when the experiment commenced, but our methods of analysis and of sampling the soil 30 years ago, cannot be considered as accurate as those which we employ at the present time.

J. B. LAWES.

Rothamsted, Eng., Jan. 20th, 1882.

Mr. Gorham, the potato buyer at Belfast, Maine, says there is a disposition on the part of the farmers to hold back their potatoes, although one dollar per bushel is offered. Large quantities of potatoes are being shipped to this country from France, Germany, England and Ireland. They are shipped by ocean steamers and sell readily in New York to the foreign population. While our best potatoes cost about \$1.20 per bushel in New York, German potatoes sell from 55 to 65 cents.

Fertilizer Experiments.

In the discussion on fertilizers, at the recent meeting at Newtown, Conn., Mr. Sedgewick, of Cornwall, said he thought that Dr. Atwater's experiments had saved the farmers a great amount of money by teaching fertilizer manufacturers that less nitrogen is required for many crops than had formerly been supposed. Nitrogen is the most costly ingredient used in commercial fertilizers, and the most difficult at the present time to obtain. It would be wasteful, therefore, to use a greater quantity than is really needed, and such waste is exceedingly costly to the farmer. As it is found that less nitrogen is required, the price of fertilizers has been gradually dropping in market, and this gain is greatly to the benefit of the farmer. It enables him to buy more, and to use more with a fair prospect of obtaining a profit. One objection to the use of guano, he believed, was that it contains a larger percentage of nitrogen than is needed, and consequently a larger proportion than farmers can afford to pay for. A saving of one per cent in the amount of nitrogen in a ton of fertilizer will cheapen the cost about four dollars. He thought the most profitable way to use fertilizers is in connection with stable manure, the fertilizers being compounded in such a way as to make the manure and fertilizer together just meet the wants of the crops to be grown. Exactly how the nitrogen is taken by plants, he did not attempt to explain, but it is evident that soil which is well filled with the tops and roots of clover and other plants contains a large amount of nitrogen that the growing crop will in some way appropriate.—*New England Farmer.*

We are glad to announce that the *Scientific American* came out of the late fire in New York with renewed life. The records and correspondence were preserved in fire proof safes. The printing of the *Scientific American* and Supplement was done in another building; consequently the types, plates, presses, paper, etc., were unharmed, and no interruption of business was occasioned. The new *Scientific American* offices are located at 261 Broadway, corner of Warren Street.

“If I could only find a cow as perfect as Rock’s Tether, I should be more than satisfied.”

For the Maryland Farmer.**Weeds or Grain.**

One of the serious losses in farming, and one rarely taken into account, arises from the presence of weeds among our crops, entailing extra labor, diminishing the yield, and lowering the standard of quality by the intermixing of foul seed, and like causes. In the fields the weeds crowd out the grasses, impart damaging flavors to the products of the dairy, injures the quality of the hay, and very often the “shortage” that comes from winter feeding is directly attributable to the mixing of weeds with the hay, increasing its bulk, but actually decreasing its food value by a corresponding ratio.

How can we eradicate weeds? The answer is, it never can be perfectly done, but their growth by various expedients may be curtailed, and they so kept under subjection that their presence as a damage is reduced to the minimum. The soil holds weed seed in surprising quantities, and as a rule inviolate, so that upon the first favorable opportunity germination takes place and unless a war of extermination goes on unceasingly, a crop of weeds results that will seed a man's farm for years. Nature besides has a system of rotation with these “wild crabs” of the farm, and a crop of one kind is, by some favorable advantage, supplanted by another no less troublesome. In this war the farmer's chief allies in their eradication is summer fattening and herd crops, followed by stocking to clover or some other dense foliage plant, not only of rapid growth, but also of spreading aggressive nature. Smothering weeds and preventing the seed coming to maturity is an important factor in this war, but at the same time the fence corners, roadsides and neglected patches here and there, must not be neglected, for these furnish lurking places for the out-posts of this marauding host, and even one season will so enable them to entrench themselves and throw out skirmishers, that work of eradication, however thorough in the field will have to be gone over with.

The summer fallow is the main reliance, for then the weeds having made a start, are put under and their growth stopped, and the inverting of the root quickly kills them by subjection to the heat of summer. This work will be still better done if the plowing is done early enough that the

weed seed that will be brought to the surface will get a chance to germinate, and if upon the appearance of the weed plant the ground is harrowed and immediately sown to buckwheat or millet, the ground is shaded and the crop can be plowed under to again assist in enriching the soil, and in ample time to sow the fall wheat crop.

The benefit of allowing weeds to start and then to destroy them is two-fold, a weed seed that has once germinated will never sprout again, and there is a manural value in this green growth, though probably far less than the same amount of clover, but it does aid in supplying the soil with humus which it must have to supply plant food.

One of the chief causes of the permanency of weeds is from a lack of fertility in the soil to enable the grasses to push ahead and assert their supremacy. On rich soil, clover and other of the grass plants will push weeds to the fence corners. Given even chances the tame grasses will, in themselves, do wonders in the eradication of weeds, but when by a lack of fertility the grass is reduced in aggressive power to a "skeleton in armor," it is no match for the weeds. Reduced to a science, the eradication of weeds can be successfully accomplished by a plow, harrow and hoe, aided by luxuriant growing forage plants like clover, and with these agencies must the farmer join issue. J. G.

Ohio, Aug. 1st.

MR. SAM'L VANNORT kindly informs us that the Kent County Agricultural Society has elected the following officers for the present year.

John W. Corey, President; John P. Nicholson, Vice-President; Henry T. Massey, Recording Secretary; Samuel Vannort, Corresponding Secretary; James Brice, Financial Secretary; Thos. Parsons, Treasurer; John Gale, Librarian. Auditing committee, E. J. Watson, J. M. J. Byrom and Thos. Massey. They have decided to hold a fair next fall but not fixed upon the time.

"With the use of Roe's Tether, I can secure all the grass on my lawn without injuring the trees. I consider it perfect throughout and from appearances I think it will last a lifetime."

Extracts from the Report of the *Aegis*, of the Deer Creek Farmers' Club.

DOES THE USE OF CHEMICAL FERTILIZERS PAY THE FARMERS.

The Deer Creek Farmers' Club met at the residence of Wm. W. Castner, on Saturday, Feb. 4th.

The above was the question announced. Mr. Castner thanked the committee for their favorable report, and said that if they wanted to improve their farms rapidly they must adopt his plan of plowing down clover sod every two years. At that time it is in its prime and furnishes more vegetable matter to the soil than when older. What is needed in our soils is vegetable matter. In proposing the question he had reference to an honestly and scientifically prepared fertilizer, and not to the worthless articles palmed off on farmers. He thought the time had come when farming cannot be successful without the use of chemical fertilizers. With them you can improve land quicker, cheaper and raise better crops than with anything except clover. The chief elements of fertility are phosphoric acid, potash, soda, magnesia and a little ammonia. Nature will supply all the ammonia needed, but the rest must be obtained from some chemical fertilizer. In bone you only apply one kind of plant food, phosphate of lime, which is slowly convertible into phosphoric acid by the action of the elements. With chemical fertilizers you can raise more and better wheat and at a smaller outlay than with barn yard manure; more and better wheat also than with Peruvian guano. The great mistake farmers make is that they take no pains to know whether a chemical fertilizer pays or not. They make no careful tests. Fresh barnyard manure is not a good fertilizer for the immediate crop to which it is applied, but should be applied to the land two years before needed for a crop. Mr. Castner's rotation is to plow sod for corn; follow the corn with oats the next spring; sow wheat after the oats, and the following spring sow clover. He mows or pastures the clover the first year, pastures it the next, and the following year plows it down for corn again. He sows some timothy with his clover, but would not if the clover were sure to take without it, as he regards clover better to use, but not to sell, than timothy. He applies his chemical fertili-

zers with a drill for wheat, and also with a wheat drill for corn, using 400 lbs. to the acre for corn, and 300 for wheat. For two years he has been using South Carolina rock and potash, and the result has been so satisfactory that last fall he put in his entire wheat crop with it. The cost is \$26 a ton. If you can find honest parties it is cheaper to buy chemical fertilizers than to make them. Very often the failure of a fertilizer to act properly, arises from ignorance on the part of the manufacturer, and not from rascality. He had first tried formulas of his own. Taking the analysis of the potato, he had a fertilizer made containing what the potato requires and raised a magnificent crop. He next took the analysis of wheat, and at a cost of \$35 per ton, had a fertilizer made which produced 40 bushels of wheat to the acre. Most fertilizers cost too much for the amount of fertilizing properties they contain. For instance, every scrap of leather and every old shoe is used in the manufacture of fertilizers. The article then purports to contain so much per centage of nitrogen, convertible into soluble ammonia, but it never can be converted in the soil and is valueless. Bone will not improve land as well as a properly prepared phosphate, and there is just as much adulteration in bone as in anything else. He strongly urged the use of South Carolina rock. If you buy phosphates, he said, you buy South Carolina rock at phosphate prices, because it enters into the composition of all the better chemical fertilizers. He had used it alongside of high grade and reliable phosphate, and could see no difference. He used no fertilizer for oats, as under his system, none is needed, and he raises good crops.

Wm. F. Hays knows good fertilizers will pay. He had used chemical fertilizers. From some he saw good results, while from others he saw no results. He had made some experiments with various fertilizers on wheat and should watch the result. Barn yard manure is the cheapest fertilizer and it should be put on sod. Last year he used 400 lbs. phosphate, and next to it 360 lbs. bone, with 40 lbs. Peruvian guano. At harvest the difference in the grass was very perceptible in favor of the bone and guano.

John Moores thought chemical fertilizers will pay, but most of the permanent im-

provement on land in this country had been by ground bone. Commercial fertilizers probably help to bring the bone into action. On poor land he would first start with commercial fertilizers and then use bone, or on rich land he would use commercial fertilizers because they are more active than bone. Where land is rich in vegetable matter, or where he uses barn yard manure he considered bone sufficient. A cheap, commercial fertilizer might produce better crops than a high priced article, because it might contain something that the land needed. The trouble is, we do not know what our lands need and put on a great deal that is of no use. He knew he could not get wrong with barn yard manure and bone, together, but in the absence of barn yard manure he should use the best chemical fertilizer he could get.

Thos. A. Hays thought Mr. Castner thoroughly understood and had sifted the question. He had used some chemical fertilizers to advantage, mixed with bone. This season he has used seven different kinds of fertilizers, and will note the difference. Farmers, he said, feed the nation, and they should protect themselves from being imposed on by worthless fertilizers.

George E. Siiver, the President, agreed with the others that commercial fertilizers pay. That fact has been clearly demonstrated by the quantity used yearly in Harford county for the last ten years. He has mostly used bone, but had come to the conclusion that it is too long acting, and we need something to give quicker returns. He did not think bone could be used to advantage on light, gravelly soils, because of its slow action. On these some good chemical fertilizer should be used. We are not able to tell what kind we need, but must bring science to our aid. Fertilizers should be analyzed carefully by a responsible chemist, and farmers should then carefully experiment and find out what their soil requires. He believed that soluble phosphoric acid is what is needed in our soils. Bone contains this in phosphate of lime, but it is longer in acting than phosphoric acid is, and crops suffer from the delay.

Mr. Castner advocated the establishment of an experimental farm and station, where farmers could have fertilizers analyzed and various kinds of grain tried. He said more fertilizers were used in

Harford county than in the whole State of Connecticut, and yet the farmers of that State are protected in buying fertilizers, by a State chemist, who last year analyzed 117 different articles for farmers. Better fertilizers are sold in Georgia than in any other State, because a good fertilizer law is in operation there.

For the Maryland Farmer.

HINTS.

Experience extending over several or many years is apt to teach us far more than can be learned from books; for, while the latter may give us many of the most valuable main points, there are many items which have either been overlooked by the author, or which may have been deemed too trivial to be worthy of mention. These small matters, however, frequently turn the scale of success, and it often happens that a neglect of one or two of these "small matters" proves a serious loss to the dairyman or farmer. We know of one dairyman who made butter on a large scale, and kept everything in the best of order, yet one summer he complained to us that there was something which injured the quality of his butter, and a careful search for the cause, for several days, failed to discover it. A careful survey was made of the yard management and the milking, as well as of the food and the feeding, yet the trouble could not be found there. After being almost ready to give up in despair, he happened to go into the milk house to see after his men there, and happened to smell the unpleasant odor given out by the three coal oil lamps which lighted his large and finely appointed dairy house. This, at once, struck him as the cause, and he had the lamps at once re-arranged so the smoke and smell would all pass out through special ventilators for the purpose, and soon there was a marked change in the quality of his butter. This may seem a small affair, yet it made a few cents difference in the price of his butter, which soon paid for the improvements.

We know of another person who could not tell why he could not make butter of extra quality, as he had the best of cows, compelled his men to keep both cows and stables clean, as well as to exercise care and cleanliness in milking, yet the quality of but-

ter was not A 1. It was found that all the manure was stored in the cellar, immediately underneath the cows, with slatted places underneath the cows to put the manure through. The fumes of this manure in heating was taken up by the milk which stood in buckets in the stable (the men always filling two or more buckets before taking it to the dairy house,) and thus impaired the quality of the butter. This was a little thing, yet it was a direct loss in dollars and cents. Hurrying the cows into their stalls to be fed and milked, causes them to hold up their milk, while letting them stand without feeding until they are milked has the same effect. Frequent currying with a good currycomb and brush helps very materially to keep them healthy and their hides sleek and fine, it doing them as much good as it does horses.

E. Jr.

Encouraging Industry.

United States Senator George has a bill pending which proposes to encourage agriculture and manufactures by repealing the duties and imposts now levied on machinery for the manufacture of cotton and woolen goods, on goods composed of hemp or jute: also on tools of mechanics which are used solely in manual labor; also on all cotton ties. This bill is one of the many that have been introduced during the present session looking to a reduction or removal of tariff duties and overthrow of the system of protection as it now exists. The protectionists find themselves attacked on every hand by bills under all sorts of titles, but all aimed at the same end. The bill of U. S. Senator George is to encourage industry by giving to the farmer, mechanic and manufacturer cheap implements, tools and machinery. Ex.

In this issue a new advertisement of the Dr. Harter Medicine Company, manufacturers of the justly celebrated Iron Tonic, endorsed and recommended by the medical profession. As a general tonic, and especially for Dyspepsia and general Debility, it has no equal, having been thoroughly tested and recommended as having virtues which no other tonic possesses. It is certainly a valuable remedy, judging from the satisfactory testimonials from prominent persons it has received.—*Cin. (Ohio) Star of the West.*

Women's Silk Culture Exhibit.

The award of the Premiums offered through the Women's Silk Culture Association, for the four best specimen pounds of cocoons raised in the States of Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and New Jersey. The same offer is renewed for the coming year. Instructions for raising silk worms, and the rules governing the competition for the premiums can be had, free of charge by addressing the Women's Silk Culture Association, Philadelphia.

"The fair of the Women's Silk Culture Association, St. George's Hall, nightly attracts large and interested audiences.

The Strawbridge & Clothier Premiums were awarded as follows:

First premium, \$200, to Mrs. Rebecca Taylor, Kennett Square, Chester county, Pa., for best specimen pound of cocoons which averaged 157 to the quarter pound, and yielded 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ounces of silk, and 2 $\frac{7}{8}$ ounces waste.

Second premium, \$150, to Mrs. H. M. Button, 330 Mickle street, Camden, N. J., her cocoon averaging 198 to the quarter pound, and yielding 1 7-32 ounces of silk, and 2 25-32 ounces waste.

Third premium, \$100, to Charles Krauss, Egg Harbor city, N. J., for cocoons averaging 157 to the quarter pound, and yielding 1 1 16 of silk, and 2 15-16 oz. waste.

Fourth premium, \$50, to Miss Lillie Titus, Camden, N. J., for cocoons averaging 205 to the quarter pound, and yielding 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. silk, and 2 $\frac{7}{8}$ oz. waste.

At the election of officers of Montgomery county Agricultural Society. Mr. W. W. Rapley was nominated for president, and Mr. H. H. Miller was instructed to cast the unanimous vote of the Society for that gentleman. Mr. Jos. H. Bradley was appointed to inform Mr. Rapley of his election.

The Vice-presidents were elected as follows: J. C. Holland, S. D. Best, B. C. Gott, Henry Bradley, W. E. Mannakee, Wm. P. Cole.

The new executive committee consists of Washington Bowie, Jno. E. Wilson, R. H. Miller, W. E. Muncaster, R. B. Farquhar.

W. V. Bouic, Jr., was elected treasurer, and Albert J. Almoney, secretary.

Care of Corn Cobs.

Dr. Nichols, of Boston, analyzed a corn cob, and declared there is over 60 per cent. of fat-producing and flesh-forming substance in the cob, after the corn is removed; or a per cent. of nutriment fully equal to the best oat straw. A report from the experiment station at Middle-town, Conn., shows the nutritive ratio of the corn cob to be 71 per cent.; and that when compared with hay it stands 0.64 per cent., while the stalks are 0.61, and the best oat straw 0.69. A paper read before the Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture, by Prof. Goersmann, gives the maize cob as high nutritive value as the stalk itself. Richard Goodman, Jr. of Berkshire county, Mass., says:—"I believe that well-ground cob has great mechanical value in the process of digestion," and recommends cobs to be ground by all means.

Important to Farmers.

The Hagerstown *Mail* of a recent date, contains a very interesting account of the value of ground limestone as a fertilizer, and states that the subject is attracting considerable attention from the farmers of Washington county, and creating a good deal of discussion as to its merits as a substitute for phosphate and other fertilizers. Beside its superiority as a fertilizer, the cost is now far below any now sold in the market. Ground limestone costs about \$5 per ton, while the bone costs about \$40 per ton.

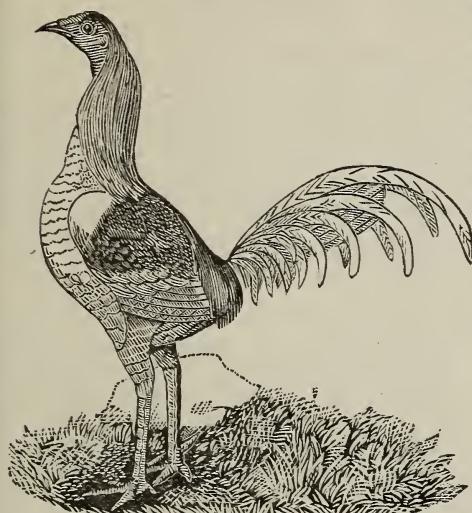
A number of the farmers of Washington county have used ground lime stone with the most gratifying results. Some of the farmers pronounce the wheat sown with ground limestone far superior in appearance to that sowed with bone phosphate. Nothing can be decided definitely until harvest, and the experiment, as yet, is in its infancy.

The proprietors of Kendall's Spavin Cure challenge the whole world to produce its equal as a cure for rheumatism or any other deep seated pain. It stands without a rival.

Rheumatism is the most terrible disease that has ever afflicted humanity, yet it instantly yields to the powerful drugs that Kendall's Spavin Cure is composed of. Read adv't.

POULTRY HOUSE.

Conducted by T. B. Dorsey,
St. Denis, Baltimore Co., Md.



The Red Pyle Game.

Of all varieties of fancy poultry known to the breeder, the Game is undoubtedly the king. He combines in his person all the beauty of plumage, grace, and symmetry of shape, laying and setting qualities and suitableness for the table of a dozen other breeds, and adds to all these the pre-eminent quality of a fierce, defiant courage and an aptitude for warfare which knows not the meaning of surrender.

The gorgeous plumage of the Partridge Cochin and the setting qualities of his mate find their match in the Game Cock and his partner. The perfect symmetry of the Hamburg and the egg-productiveness of his spouse are equalled by the Game cock and hen. Though not as large as some of the other breeds, they furnish a meat which is superior in juiciness and delicacy of flavor to any domestic fowl that walks. As mothers there is nothing can equal them in their care and devotion to their brood, except, perhaps, a bantam, and their fearlessness of all danger and bravery against all enemies, in addition to their power of, and zeal in providing for their young, make them the most valuable of all nurses.

Woe to the prowling cat, the marauding rat, or the sneak thief dog that invades her domains. I have seen a cat driven up a

tree, a rat literally cut to pieces, and a full grown pointer beat a most hurried and ignominious retreat from my premises, and the Amazon who defended them in each and every instance was an old blue game hen. The Red Pyle is one of the handsomest in plumage of all the varieties. The cock's hackle is striped red and white, his breast white, pencilled with red, his tail white and his back a deep, rich red, shading out into chestnut on the saddle feathers.

The hen is mainly white with red pencilling on hackle and a rich chestnut breast. Legs are either willow or yellow, according to taste. They are the equals of any other variety in egg-laying and other good qualities, and for savage, desperate fighting, with steel or without, I know of no color which excels them, if color have anything to do with it. The boldest, fiercest and most thoroughbred of all the warriors in the Louisville tournament came from a strain known as the "Heathwood Irish Pyle," owned and controlled by Mr. Win-gate of Farmington, N. H.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Hens in Winter.

Some time since the *Ohio Farmer* contained the following paragraph:—"Corn-fed hens do not lay in winter, for the simple reason that there is no albumen material in corn. When wheat is fed there is fat enough in it to supply all that is needed for the yolk, and gluten to make the white, and lime enough to furnish the shell; it does not thus seem difficult to understand why corn-fed hens should not lay, as they do not, or why wheat-fed hens should lay as they do."

The above requires some examination. Very many propositions of a similar character have a general circulation, when the principals mentioned are incorrect; now how is it in the case of the above item? Let an investigation be made; it is found by a reference to standard authorities that instead of being destitute of albuminoids as it is stated with regard to corn, it contains 12.3 parts of albuminoids, 9 parts of fatty matter, 71.6 parts of starch, 5.9 parts of fiber, and 1.2 parts of mineral substances, while wheat contains 12 to 15 parts of albuminoids, from 1 to 15 parts of fatty matter, from 60 to 72 parts of

starch, with small parts of mineral matter.

Now a good sized egg will weigh 1000 grains, of which 107 are shell, 604 white, and 289 are yolk. Of the shell 97 per cent. is carbonate of lime, 1 per cent. is phosphate of lime and magnesia, and 2 per cent. is albumen; the white consists of 12 per cent. of albumen, 2.7 per cent of mucus, 0.2 per cent. of salts, and 85 per cent. of water; the yolk has 17.4 per cent. of albumen, 28.6 per cent. of yellow oil, and 54 per cent. of water with a mere trace of sulphur and phosphorus. Therefore an average egg contains:

Water,	669.46	grains.
Albumen,	124.906	"
Yellow Oil,	82.654	"
Carbonate of Lime,	103.79	"
Phos. of Lime and Magnesia	1.07	"
Mucus	16.308	"
Salts,	1.812	"
<hr/>		1000.

By taking the composition of corn 1000 grains (weight,) would give 123 grains of albuminoids, 90 grains of fatty matter, and 12 grains of mineral matter, whereby it will be seen that corn furnishes very nearly a normal food for hens so far as laying purposes are concerned.

It is not the corn that causes barrenness of laying in fowls, it is the want of proper care and protection in cold weather. In summer if a fowl is allowed its liberty, its food consists of insects, worms, etc., the seeds and foliage of grasses and such mineral substances as the appetite desires, and then is usually the most prolific laying season; now if the food in winter is furnished in variety, and as near like that of summer as may be, with warm tarters, the hens may be expected to lay.

Any of the grains are good in their place, as well as the meal made from them; especially is scalded Indian corn meal fed while hot beneficial; it is also good economy to feed chopped cabbage, green apples, onions, or turnips in small quantities.

Also occasionally give a stimulating or heating dose of cayenne pepper or ginger, or horse radish root, and it will be found beneficial and effective; also give ashes and sand from which mineral substances can be selected, also pound up oyster shells, or even broken crockery, and above all do not fail to furnish a plentiful supply of perfectly pure water daily.

What is required to produce hens' eggs in winter, is proper care and attention, rather than the want of albuminoids in corn.

WILLIAM H. YEOMANS.
Columbia, Conn.

W. C. Baker, of New Jersey, is probably the champion chicken raiser of the world. He wintered 2000 hens and these do not supply his demand for eggs for hatching. He has an incubator that hatches 8,000 chicks at a time. His product this year will be 250,000 chickens.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY MEETING.—On Tuesday last a meeting of the stockholders of the Carroll County Agricultural Society was held in the Court House.

—The reports of the secretary and treasurer were read and adopted. On motion the old officers were elected, viz: President, Col. Wm. A. McKellip; vice-president, David Fowble; secretary, Francis H. Orendorff; treasurer, Richard Manning; directors, Jeremiah Rinehart, John B. Boyle, Edward Lynch, Dr. Jacob Rinehart and Wm. J. Morelock. A meeting of the officers and stockholders will be held at the Court House on the 22nd instant.

The next fair of the Agricultural Society of Cecil county will be held the first week in October. The receipts from last fall's exhibition were \$10,743 and the expenditures \$10,651. Adam R. Magraw has been re-elected president and John R. Partridge secretary.

S. M. PETTENGILL & Co., whose offices were destroyed by the fire of Jan. 31st, are again ready for work in their new quarters, with every facility for the transaction of their business.

J. A. EVERITT'S Seed Warehouse, Watertown, Pa., January 26, 1882, announces: "Fire, that demon of destruction, in an hour, blotted out all results of months of thought and labor by destroying the whole edition of his catalogue, which was almost ready to be sent out, with all the engravings, stereotype plates, &c. He took immediate steps to get out another edition, which will be ready about the 20th February."

THE DAIRY.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Winter Butter.

Reforms come slow and dairymen are not converted to the use of "new fangled notions" in a day, so we may take for granted that the great mass of farmers who are making winter butter, are doing so with the old time machinery, and of a necessity, meeting with as many failures as successes, so that if we point out some better ways of doing things with the common apparatus of pans, dasher churning, etc., some vexed house-wife may "rise up and call us blessed."

Next to the tribulation of having the cream refuse to come, is that of having the butter come soft and white, and leave a buttermilk that has the appearance of still holding a large part of the cream in solution. Many a good housewife has lamented this state of affairs and tried at the churn to remedy it; but as nothing was done towards remedying the defect in the cream, the result was not substantially different.

The causes are traceable to several reasons, the most likely one being the subjecting of the cream and milk to extreme changes of temperature, incident to a milk room connected with the living room, very warm by day, and absence of fire by night. Cream that is thus treated is liable to have its color faded out, and no care or attention save butter color can bring back its color; and frozen cream is also bleached and is further damaged by the destruction of the natural grains, and the butter has that waxy, greasy appearance that all consumers object to.

Then the food of stock, while it may be a flesh-former, would be a poor butter producer, and thus give to the butter that pale poverty stricken appearance, suggestive of hard butter and not very much better, and to this last a query is beginning to arise, "Which is the better butter animal, a cow, or a Poland China hog?"

Back (?) of the milk room, kept at an even temperature and cream not subjected to changes of temperature, are the cows, themselves, and their product of milk. It is only within a few years that the idea of one cow being a better butter cow than another has been developed into a science,

A cow may give poor milk, feed her what you may, and a poor butter will result from her milk, do with it what you will, so if the milk glands of a cow are imperfect, and that is just what makes poor cows—good winter butter can never be made from them, and even if their milk is mixed with that of good cows, there will be a tendency to lower the quality. A cow may give a large flow of milk and yet be a poor cow to own, and do more damage to the dairy products than her body is worth. On the other hand, a good butter cow, will, if fed upon good, nutritious food, of fat forming varieties, may be expected to furnish a milk that will, if properly handled, produce a well colored butter and possessing fine grains.

The cow selected and good food furnished, the next consideration will be a milk room, one in which a uniform temperature can be maintained, and it is the only way, save by the modern creamery plan that will produce satisfactory results. While texture and color are thus more often arrived at, the liability of the white specks is reduced to the minimum. White specks are, in the main, traceable to imperfect care of cream, this variable temperature being chief; for these varying conditions produce cream of different qualities, so that when the cream of different messes of milk are mixed, the acidity of one, will coagulate the fresher milk that is always present in cream in the other, and these clots of coagulated milk will develop ferment enough by their own acidity to discharge the whey that they contain, and thus lightened, they take their place in the cream instead of falling to the bottom. These white specks in the butter are cheesy matter, rather than bits of dried cream or living germs that have clothed themselves with the garment of caseine, or fatty matter, so impervious that no churning will dissolve them. Cream that stands too long may develop these specks as well as by mixing cream, the acidity coagulating the milk that is taken off with the cream. So that frequent churnings, although the amount of cream may be small, is advisable. There is only one way to produce good winter butter—good stables, better and butter cows, nutritious feeding of the nitrogenous food, a good milk room, uniform treatment of the cream, frequent churnings and delicacy in working the but-

ter. Skill, judgment and the governing of conditions, are the best agents in producing winter butter.

J. G.

Ohio, Feb. 1882.

For the Maryland Farmer:

Butter Color.

Mr. Editor—In reading the letter of "Lady Farmer," in February number of the Farmer, that she recommends Hanson's Danish Butter Color, as the best she has ever tried. I am surprised at any lady recommending the use of any artificial coloring for butter. Let me ask, what is the good in using it, does it improve the flavor of the butter; does it increase the quantity or does it make the butter go any farther than it otherwise would; if it will not do this, why should we use it?

Now, Mr. Editor, I hate, (if I may allowed to say so) the very name of *butter color*, (I mean artificial) and it makes me mad to see an advertisement for its sale, and have said that every inventor of artificial *butter color* should be punished for placing it before the public. My wife makes as pretty gilt edge butter as anyone should wish to see, without the aid of artificial coloring, although she has often been accused of coloring her butter; and I am prepared to say upon my oath that she has never used any coloring after the milk came from the cow, but we use good clover hay and yellow corn meal as a coloring given to the cows twice daily, and I do most emphatically say that it is the best *butter color* known, and that it will improve the flavor, increase the quantity, and keep the cows in good thriving condition. Yours, KENT FARMER, Kent, Co., Md., Feb. 10, 1882.

Churning Sweet and Sour Cream.

Science and the best practice would seem to be on the side of churning cream sweet. Dr. Voelcker, chemist to the Royal Agricultural Society of England, has recently taken strong ground against churning cream sour. He lays as much stress upon having cream sweet when it is churned as he does upon having it clean. Common sense would seem to coincide with Voelcker. That milk, when it has turned sour, is started on the road to decomposition, is not questioned by any-

body, even the advocates of souring cream. What advantage it can be to the stability of butter fats to hold them for a time, either long or short, mingled with a mass of decomposing animal matter, in whatever stage of decomposition it may be, common sense is unable to understand. —*National Live-Stock Journal, Chicago.*

THE APIARY.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Winter Management of Bees.

This is a question that has been discussed for the past eight or ten years. Almost every apiarian has his or her favorite mode. That which will suit one locality will fail in another, hence, practical experience should be sought after more. Bee-keepers, should read more bee literature, then compare that which they have read with their own experience.

We have always wintered our bees on their summer stands without any protection whatever, and have never lost one single colony that had thirty pounds of honey stored in the brood chamber on the first of October. We use the Langstroth hive, one and two stories on the one story hive. We use the honey board, having nine, one and one half inch holes in it. We close all of the holes, but the one just over the brood nest, this is left open for ventilation, which, we think, is the secret of success. We leave the entrance just as we have it in summer, that is, one-quarter inch wide, the length of the hive, this gives a free circulation of air, all dampness can pass off, therefore there will be no frost in the hive. Our two story hives we fill the upper story with section boxes, this gives the best ventilation we have ever tried, and our bees wintered in our two story hive have made us more honey than those wintered in one story hive.

During the past hard winter our bees did not have a fly out of their hives for forty-two days, they were covered up entirely with snow for more than four weeks, and yet we did not lose any, while others of my neighborhood lost from twenty-five to fifty per cent. of their bees.

BEE NOTES FOR MARCH.

Experience has taught us, if we can get

our bees safely through the month of March, we are all right for the following season. What is known as spring dwindling now commences; this is caused by the little honey gatherers flying out and getting chilled before they can get back to the hive. We have seen some colonies reduced one-third to one-half in a few days, when they are so weakened they should be fed. The best bee feed we have ever tried is made of coffee A sugar and flour. First make a shallow box one inch deep and about ten or twelve inches square, now take four pounds of coffee A sugar and add just enough of water to dissolve the sugar to a mushy state, put on a slow fire and dissolve the sugar, add one tea cup of flour, stir well and boil until it will harden by letting a few drops fall in cold water, when done pour in the box and set away to cool. If this candy has been prepared right it will get very hard. The box must not be quite full, the above quantity will do for several boxes. Turn the box upside down over the bees or on top of the honey board or box hive, and they will have something that will be of more service in producing young bees than twice that quantity in weight of sealed honey in the hive.

See that the entrance of the hive does not get full of dead bees, also look out for mice. We aim to have our hive's entrance so small that a mouse cannot get in. Next month we will give complete directions for making the Langstroth hive.

We would be glad to have bee keepers to ask us questions to be answered in MARYLAND FARMER.

J. LUTHER BOWERS.

Berryville, Va.

JOURNALISTIC.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE FOR MARCH, is a beautiful, and as usual with this grand old magazine, highly interesting number. It contains a quaint frontispiece and a great number of other excellent illustrations, besides its large mass of capital reading matter.

PENNSYLVANIA FARMER, is a new monthly, published at Mercer, Pa., at \$1 per year. The form is quarto, and it has 16 pages of reading and advertisements. Its editorials and selected matter, are reflective of sound judgment, and the whole make up is attractive. It well deserves extensive patronage.

Publications Received.

The North American Review for March presents a striking array of articles, every one of which possesses the characteristic of contemporaneous interest. First we have a contribution from Senator George F. Edmunds, on "The Conduct of the Guiteau Trial." Ex-Minister Edward F Noyes communicates the results of his observations of political affairs in France under the title, "The Progress of the French Republic." In "Trial by Jury," Judge Edward A. Thomas describes the social conditions under which our jury system had its origin, and notes its defects in view of the altered relations of modern life. And other able papers.

Transactions of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, for the year 1881, Part I. This work is full of instructive and deeply interesting matter.

From F D Coburn, Esq., Secretary, the Quarterly Report of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture for the quarter ending December 31, 1881. This is as its predecessors an able and important document.

Dr. Thos Pollard's 57th Annual Report as Commissioner of agriculture of Virginia, accompanied by his treatise on "Sheep Husbandry of Virginia." This book of nearly two hundred pages is one of great value to the reading public, and reflects high credit upon its author.

The Shepherd's National Journal.—This is an excellent quarterly, conducted by Mr. E J. Hiatt, Chester Hill, Ohio. It condenses the best facts in regard to sheep growing, wool products and values of mutton in different quarters of the Union. In addition to the regular price, \$2.00 per year, in advance, it will issue an extra, weekly, during the wool selling season, showing the movements in the wool trade and the price of mutton in the different markets of the United States.

Food and Health, is the title of a large semi-monthly published in New York, with Amelia Lewis and J C. Freund, Editors, at \$2.00 per year. This journal is well worth its cost to all who are disposed to be esthetic in food, raiment and all things appertaining to the household adornments, carefully subjected to rules regulating health, or hygienic principles.

Annual Report of the U. S. Agricultural Commission, Hon Wm. G Le Duc, for 1880. This is a large volume, elegantly illustrated, and contains a great amount of information of importance to all interested in the various branches of agriculture. It treats of various subjects, and most of the essays are written by learned scientists or able writers. We shall avail ourselves of some of its contents, in the future, for the information of our readers.

"ROUGH ON RATS."

The thing desired found at last. Ask Drugists for "Rough on Rats." It clears out rats, mice, roaches, flies, bed-bugs, 15c. boxes.

MARYLAND FARMER

A STANDARD MAGAZINE,

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Live Stock and Rural Economy.

EZRA WHITMAN, Editor,

COL. W. W. W. BOWIE, Associate Editor,

141 WEST PRATT STREET,
BALTIMORE, MD.

BALTIMORE, MARCH 1st, 1882.

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THE MARYLAND FARMER is now read by more Farmers, Planters, Merchants, Mechanics and others interested in Agriculture, than any other magazine which circulates in the Middle or Southern States, and therefore is the best medium for advertisers who desire to extend their sales in this territory.

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EZRA WHITMAN.

COL. D. S. CURTIS, of Washington, D. C., is authorized to act as Correspondent and Agent to receive subscriptions and advertisements for the MARYLAND FARMER, in the District of Columbia Maryland and Virginia.

Our friends can do us a good turn by mentioning the MARYLAND FARMER to their neighbors, and suggesting to them to subscribe for it.

American Agricultural Association.

This Association held its annual convention at the Grand Central Hotel, New York, Feb. 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Col. Sprague, of Vermont, President of the Association, presiding.

Composed as these national bodies are of the representatives of agriculture in all its departments, from every section of the United States, their proceedings are necessarily not only entertaining but highly instructive. This convention was fully equal in aggregation of cultured and practical talent to any of its predecessors, and the ability and learning displayed would have graced any deliberative assembly.

To those who regularly attend these annual gatherings they become pleasant occasions for fraternal re-unions and the perpetuation of valued friendships. Sometime, however, they are sad reminders of the instability of human ties, which was forcibly suggested this year in the absence of the manly form and genial face of our life-long friend, the late John Merryman, of Hayfields, the first President of the association, who stood at the front among the prominent and progressive agriculturists of Maryland, and indeed of the United States.

After the excellent opening address of Col. Sprague, the President, the business opened with a paper by Seth Green, of Rochester, on the Culture of Fish.

The next address was from Professor A. L. Perry, Williams College, on free trade. He proceeded to show how agriculture is injured by the tariff in the case of cotton ties. He said in a crop of 6,000,000 bales of cotton, the tariff duty of 35 per cent. raises the cost of ties 12 cents per bale; then the extra cost of baling one year's crop is \$720,000, and therefore the extra cost under the 70 per cent. duty which is now sought to be imposed by the McKinley bill, pending in Congress, will be \$1,440,000, on an annual crop of 6,000,000 bales cotton.

At the conclusion of Prof. Ferry's address, there was a discussion in which some of the protectionists present took a lively part, especially Mr. Grinnell of Iowa, Mr. Chapman of Vermont, and Mr. Parsons, of Detroit. Prof. Ferry responded, and a resolution was then adopted to the effect that Congress be urged to take action on

the revision of the tariff at an early day.

The following resolution, moved by the Hon. D. H. Wheeler, of Nebraska, was unanimously passed:

Whereas, The present tariff was created 20 years ago, during the time of our late war, to secure an extraordinary revenue for an extraordinary purpose, therefore be it

Resolved, That this association favor a tariff revision by Congress at an early day.

The association then proceeded to the election of officers, and unanimously elected for the year 1882, the following:

N. F. SPRAGUE—President.

HENRY V ALVORD—Sen. Vice-President.

JAS H. REALL—Secretary.

H. H. McLAREN—Treasurer.

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F. D. Moulton, Thomas A. Garrett, D. H. Wheeler, John J. Hally, Judson C. Stevens, Hon H. J. Kimball, Geo A. Crawford, J. B. Grinnell, Genl. W. H. Jackson, Samuel Wells, F. S. Gold, Rolfe S. Saunders, Philo Parsons, I. F. Kinney, A. M. Fulford.

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Mr. H. J. Kimball, who was Director General of the Atlanta Cotton Exposition, read a paper giving an account of the results of that enterprise, and a vote of thanks, moved by Gen. Tremaine and seconded by Mr. Frank Moulton, was given him. The allusion in the address to the disappearance in the South of all sectional strife was applauded by the Convention.

At the afternoon session a paper was read by Dr. Byron Halstead, of New York,

on "Weeds," Miss Amelia Lewis delivered a brief address on "Farmers' Wives," and Dr. Robert Grimshaw, of Pennsylvania, read a paper on "Sugar Beet and Beet Culture," Prof. Willis B. Hazard, of Pennsylvania, read a lengthy paper on "The Channel Islands, their People and their Cattle," and J. J. Hedges, of St. Louis, delivered an address on "Cane Growing and Sugar Making."

The following gentlemen addressed the Convention with exceedingly interesting remarks, viz., Gen. H. E. Tremaine, "How to move the Crops;" B. G. Northrup, "Homes of the Farmers;" Dr. Bailey, "Ensilage," and other lectures and speeches were made.

At the evening session Professor Willard of Little Falls, gave his views on "Dairy Science."

A dispatch was received from ex-Gov. Tilden to the Convention, in which he said he appreciated the important agricultural interests in the United States, the value of the efforts to promote them which are represented in the Convention, and regretted that he could not be present at the deliberations.

The committee to which was referred the question of holding a national fair, reported in favor of appointing a committee of fifteen which should have entire control of the whole subject. This report was adopted, and the committee appointed. This committee, of which I had the honor to be a member, met and could not agree upon the time of holding the first Fair, but referred the subject back to the directors of association, which, it is stated will meet in March for the determination of this vexed question.

The President communicated the fact to the convention that the Erie railroad had offered a special train of cars for the conveyance of the members to the farm of Mr. Theodore A. Havemeyer, at Mahwah, N. J.

The Convention then adjourned to meet at Mr. Havemeyer's celebrated farm at Mahwah, N. J.

W.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound revives the drooping spirits; invigorates and harmonizes the organic functions; gives elasticity and firmness to the step, restores the natural lustre to the eye, and plants on the pale cheek of beauty the fresh roses of life's spring and early summer time.

Theodore A. Havemeyer's Farm.

The memorable feature of my visit to the annual meeting of the American Agricultural Association was a trip to the celebrated Havemeyer stock and dairy farm, which is located in New Jersey, about thirty miles from New York city. The invitation was extended by the owner, Mr. Theodore A. Havemeyer, one of New York's most enterprising citizens, and prominently connected with the extensive sugar refining interests of that city. By the special train provided, about two hundred composing the party were soon landed at Mahwah station, on the Erie railroad, whence they were conveyed by sleighs, two and a half miles to the farm, the jingle of the bells dispensing its merry music as we were gliding rapidly to our destination along the snow mantled valley of the historic Ramapo.

Immediately upon our arrival, the sightseeing began. Thomas Jefferson once said of the scenery at Harper's Ferry,

"It was worth a trip across the Atlantic to behold." It may be said with as much truth that the ambitious and progressive farmer would be amply remunerated by a trip from any section of the United States, to observe and study—"Mountain Side Farm," with its extensive and complete appointments and skilled management. Although only about two years attaining its present development, it is pronounced by those competent to judge, superior to any establishment of the kind in the United States. If Mr. Havemeyer can realize his expectations of making it self-supporting, it will demonstrate a fact well worth establishing—that profitable farming is not incompatible with a liberal and even expensive outlay for improvements and stock.

"Mountain Side" contains 557 acres and as you survey its well kept surface of convenient shape, running back with a rising elevation to the base of the mountain in the rear, with the Ramapo river winding its course through its ample area, you can well imagine how the scene, picturesque even in its winter garb, would, under the genial rays of the summer sun, reveal a landscape of rare rural beauty. The 300 acres of level land are under a high state of cultivation, and the stately mansion, with the ample and imposing display of farm structures, suggest the idea

of a princely, intelligent, broad hearted and liberal minded proprietor.

The buildings comprise the extensive barn, with its dairy, ice house and silos combined, the handsome and commodious private stables, the pig sty's and yard, the poultry house and yard, the sheep barn, and the calf pens.

While everything we saw elicited general interest, yet it was amusing to witness the peculiar tastes and fancies of individuals, which, by the way, are bound to "crop out" upon such occasions and show "what is on the brain."

Some would be attracted by the blooded stock and handsome equipages, whilst others would admire the splendid draught horses and the most improved farming implements. Many would observe with delight the nobly descended Yorkshire and Chester white hogs—and not a few would go into ecstacies over the aristocratic South-downs. The calf pens excited genuine admiration, and the well formed bulls, whose princely pedigree made them the peers of any in Europe or America, commanded universal praise. The poultry yard also elicited that attention which its well-bred Brahmans and Bantams deserved. But absorbing interest was centred in the magnificent barn which is worth a more particular description. This building, in its ample construction, comprises the barn, dairy, with its ice house, and the silos. The barn proper, where the 98 Jersey cows are kept, runs east and west, and is 263 feet long and 44 feet wide. A similar structure, running north and south, joins this at the extreme west end, thus forming the letter T. The whole rests upon solid masonry, which forms a basement for manure pits, into which the droppings from the cattle floor fall. A roadway runs the entire length, through which carts haul earth to absorb the moisture and remove the manure daily. A large cellar for roots is constructed in this basement of stone, with cemented sides and bottom.

A broad floor from end to end, with stalls for the cattle ranged upon either side to the number of ninety-eight; and places for machinery are also provided on this floor. The hay loft and feed bins are on the upper floor, capable of holding 300 tons of hay.

That portion of the building running north and south, contains in the south wing

the comfortable quarters for the dairy, also the ice-house and engine room. Just at the centre, between the two drive-ways, is constructed a cistern of cemented work, having a capacity of 35,000 gallons of water which is supplied from the river by a pump. By a steam pump, this water is carried to two large tanks at each end of the main barn, from which it is distributed through a system of pipes to all the farm buildings. At a short distance from the cistern is the gas house, which furnishes light for all the buildings on the farm. The ice house has a capacity of 400 tons.

The silos, four in number, occupy the north wing, a space of 100 feet in length, 40 feet in width, and 23 feet in height, all built above ground. This space has a capacity of 2000 tons. It is intended to sub-divide this, into twenty compartments, each with a capacity of 100 tons, for different kinds of green food such as corn, rye, millet, peas, clover, &c., &c.

The ensilage preserved was apparently as fresh and as pure as when first cut, and the fact that the cattle eat it greedily and refused the well cured hay, was the best evidence of its wholesome and nutritious qualities. And the additional fact that all the valuable stock upon the farm subsisted mainly upon this article of diet proved conclusively the faith which Mr. Have-meyer placed in it as a healthy and nourishing food. The truth is, this ensilage question is an all important one, and the opinion is gaining ground rapidly, that it will in the near future become a source of general profit to the agricultural interests of the country. In the preparation of the ensilage a pressure of 300 pounds to the square foot was used, and this in the form of barrels filled with sand and gravel. Pumping water, cutting ensilage, and the grinding and churning are all done by the engine.

Such is a brief description of the building, so commodious, so cleanly, and in some of its parts so elegant as to be a fit abode for both man and beast. No unpleasant odor or noxious influence being allowed a place within its well lighted and thoroughly ventilated apartments. There the ninety-eight Jersey cows of registered royal blood furnish the delicious product which rejoices the appetites of the good dairymen of the Empire City, while the happy

country people that provide the luxury are amply rewarded.

The sight seeing over, we were summoned to partake of the sumptuous feast provided for the inner man, at the mansion. Here the lover of choice roast beef and delicious mutton, to say nothing of the other good things bountifully provided, could gratify his most exacting taste, and the exquisite flavor of the tea and coffee, enriched by the sweet and pure Jersey cream, furnished a luxury which would have gladdened the palate of the most fastidious connoisseur. Thus fortified, we were prepared for the return trip, which was accomplished about six o'clock, taking with us pleasant memories which will linger through life.

W.

State Aid for Agriculture.

We had occasion in the February number of the *FARMER* to allude to the admirable report of the President to the Board of Trustees of the Maryland Agricultural College, and have been disappointed that the legislature has not taken action looking into a restoration of the annual allowance, which was stopped by the last General Assembly. We were convinced at the time that this small pittance of six thousand dollars would not have been denied the college, if all the circumstances and equities of the case had been maturely considered, and we are equally sure that an impartial consideration of all the facts properly belonging to the subject, will result in a prompt restoration of the fund to that institution, especially as this aid is essential to the welfare, and perhaps, the very existence of the college. The President has conscientiously stated it to be a useless and fruitless expenditure of effort to attempt to run the college without the cordial and substantial aid of the people of Maryland. This is frank and manly talk and entitles its author to equally frank and unselfish consideration at the hands of the Legislature.

In any investigation, however, due regard should be given to legitimate argument, wanton assertion, and ill-considered and prejudiced statements should be viewed with a wholesome suspicion. Public institutions, like worthy individuals, making a heroic struggle for success somehow or other make enemies. Sometimes they

appear where least expected or deserved, and in such case the hostility is the more bitter and persistent. A discharged employee or a disappointed applicant for position may do much harm. Sometimes, individuals, friendly disposed when they can exercise a controlling power, become strangely lukewarm and inimical when they find neither their opinions heeded or their counsel valued. Not unfrequently they must contend with hypercritical censure, which through ignorance or malice ignores all rules of fairness and justice.

The college will scarcely presume to claim immunity from those short-comings which are inseparable from all public institutions, and especially those struggling under unpropitious surroundings, but it has a right to ask a calm and just criticism of its operations and management. Among the many excellent men, both in the city and rural districts, with whom we have conversed, we found none, who upon a full explanation of all the facts, did not express the earnest hope that the Legislature would restore the annual allowance to the college. The truth is, no thinking mind can resist the conclusion that the Legislature should not only do this act of simple justice to the college and its individual stockholders, but should encourage in every way possible, its struggle for usefulness.

Daniel Webster said, "All national wealth depends upon an enlightened agriculture." Here is the argument for agricultural education in a nut shell. It places agriculture in the front rank as a useful science and demands an educated husbandry. The fact is all individual and national prosperity rests upon agriculture, and when it is not prosperous all other interests suffer.

Let us not then weaken, much less destroy an institution which represents the most important and useful of the industrial sciences. If the Legislature is prepared to say that agriculture is not important enough to become the subject of education and enlightenment, then this ends the question; we want no college, but if agricultural colleges are useful institutions, then why not Maryland boast the possession of a model institution that has become a useful educator, a credit and pride to the State. In every other direction except agriculture, Maryland is pushing extraordinary development. She has her Johns Hopkins Uni-

versity already without a peer in America, and while the Hopkins Hospital and other like benevolent agencies are making our State the home of the friendless and suffering, the Peabody and Enoch Pratt libraries are dispensing information and pleasure to every household. Her railroads and water ways are extending the influence and power of her commerce, and Boards of trade and commercial organizations of various kinds, complete the machinery which is propelled by the denizen of trade. Even commercial colleges are prospering as a necessary adjunct to this organizing tendency of commerce. Now of course agriculture, as every other industrial interest, must derive great benefit from all this, but it is indirect. What she needs is to organize more direct methods of power. In doing this, there cannot be found as efficient ground-work as a college. Other States have found this out and are profiting by it. "The Agricultural and Mechanical College of Mississippi," has applied to the Legislature for an appropriation of \$150,000, and she will doubtless receive it. The State has already made liberal endowment to the college, and considers its money well spent.

Maryland is behind most of her sister States in this direction. Her farmers allow politics to absorb too much of her patronage, and in their self denial are modest to a degree almost culpable. To avoid tediousness, we will only mention appropriations, in addition to Mississippi, made by the following States, annually: Kansas \$14,800, Illinois \$11,200, Georgia \$15,300, Connecticut \$10,500, New York \$20,000. Narrow minds object that an agricultural college should teach only agriculture, but we have found they had a very indefinite, and sometimes a very ignorant idea of what this involved. Some restricted the teaching to mere manual labor, others would add reading, writing, and arithmetic were needed. But a small number had risen to the standpoint of the present broad idea of what is comprehended in the term an "enlightened agriculture," which besides having to do with all the physical sciences, would not violently exclude the polish of a sprinkling of the classics if the student desired it. Surely the "son of the soil" should not be offended, if he found his fellow by his

side in the prosecution of his studies becoming the equal of the pursuer of any other calling, and this too when diversity of studies was a healthy and almost necessary recreation to him. He should rather feel proud that the American farmer, no matter how humble his means, could become the peer of the chosen representatives of any other industrial calling.

In Germany where perhaps education for the masses has reached a higher state of perfection than elsewhere, agriculture is esteemed to be a most important element of education, and from the kindergarten up to the "Central Agricultural School," agriculture is dignified with a front rank in point of importance, the curriculum of the latter or central school embracing classics.

There may be persons who think some change may be necessary in the management of the college. But don't let the Legislature inadvisedly or inconsiderately weaken or crush out an institution which rests on peculiar equities and a plighted faith, which should not be rashly ignored. And to those who have not given this subject mature thought, it may not be out of place to say that they may safely follow in the footsteps of those good and experienced agriculturists, some now no more, of their state, whose opinions her people have learned to respect and value, and who have spent many precious hours in the effort to build up an institution which they believed to be a necessity to the agricultural interests of Maryland.

The truth is, what the college needs to make it a success, is simply the sympathy, confidence and cordial support, including reasonable financial aid of the people of Maryland. Let this be done, and let the curriculum be such that the student could either take the whole or any special branch. With an intelligent and adequate appreciation of the importance of this subject, the college might be made a source of pride and usefulness to the State, taking rank alongside of the the other valued institutions which are placing Maryland among the progressive and enlightened States of the Union.

W.

After vainly spending five hundred dollars for other remedies to relieve my wife I have no hesitation in declaring that St. Jacobs Oil will cure Neuralgia, says M. V. B. Herson Esq., (of Pinkham & Herson,) Boston, Mass., an enthusiastic indorser of its merits—*Chambersburgh, Pa. Herald*

OUR FRONTISPICE.—We are enabled by Messrs. Powell and Brothers to present as a frontispiece to our journal this month, a correct picture of their fine, imported Clydesdale horse, "*Young Wellington*." This horse is a rich bay in color, of splendid form and fine size. His pedigree is unsurpassed, being descended from noted ancestors, who were all prize takers at the shows in England and Scotland. He was foaled May, 1872, and imported in 1881, by Powell Bros., Springboro, Crawford Co., Pa.

OUR COMPLAINT.—Notwithstanding several gentle hints to our brothers of the rural press, that we desired proper credit for such articles as they copied from our columns, yet, our friend of the "*Port Tobacco Times*," almost monthly copies our farm and garden work, without giving us the credit of it. And such has been the case with others occasionally. But the *Hartford Democrat*, not only appropriates our articles without credit, but ignores us entirely when highly complimenting the other agricultural journal in our State. We feel that we have cause to complain, and to demand even-handed justice. Verbi. Sat

TOBACCO INSPECTION.—From the public impression of the views of planters over the State, it would appear that there is a large majority in favor of abolishing the compulsory feature in the present law, and continuing the State inspection warehouses with such amendments as may be calculated to reform abuses and elevate the standard of inspection. The planters will then have the option of having their tobacco inspected where they please, and also of sending it to any market they please, without the fear of incurring the former penalty for doing so. That compulsory clause has always looked to us as unconstitutional and violative of free trade and intercourse between the States.

The First Exhibition of the Maryland Poultry and Pigeon Club.

We are glad to say was a perfect success, financially and in every way. The display of birds was beautiful and interesting, reflecting great credit on the exhibitors. The arrangement of the four or five hundred coops containing specimens of almost every variety of domestic fowls, was admirable and evidenced the good taste and judgment of the managers. The club has cause for exultation in the success of its first exhibition. Marylanders came out in full force and competed successfully against the birds of very eminent poultry fanciers from several other States. We congratulate our poultry editor upon his receiving so large a number of premiums. If space allowed we would cheerfully mention all the premiums taken by name, and give a list of the entries as also of premiums, which was a legion.

Show like this, do much good and are a public benefit. They attract public attention, stimulate exhibitors to further efforts, excites public taste for the beautiful, sets the public mind to thinking upon the economic and practical advantages of poultry-raising, and affords a delightful entertainment to the visitors, from the grandsire down to the prattling infant.

As we sauntered around and among this great assemblage of the feathered tribes we were amazed at the beauty of the scene. It seemed as if we were looking through a kaleidoscope so varying were the objects. We cannot begin to tell all that we saw or the incidents that either amused or surprised us. We cannot help giving one as a sample. There was an exquisite game bantam, hardly a pound in weight, erect and proud as Lucifer, brave and pugnacious, with a heart as big as a lion, and an eagle's eye, crowing defiance to his opposite neighbor, who was a 15 pounder, the Goliah of the show, quiet, fat and lazily indifferent,

Each one has his own sphere of usefulness, and each had his crowd of admiring friends.

While at the exhibition our thoughts turned upon the real value of poultry in this and other countries. All of us give but little thought to poultry as one of the great industries, and seldom pause to estimate its aggregate value in supplying food and as an article of sale and commercial wealth. Those who will reflect upon the number of eggs consumed, the amount of pounds of poultry eaten, the value of the feathers, and the domestic guano secured, annually, will no doubt agree with us that poultry of itself exceeds in quantity and value any other meat producing class of animals, used by man. Chicken raising then is no longer to be ridiculed and laughed at. It is a gigantic public source of revenue. It is an industry in which everybody is interested and one which may be successfully prosecuted by the feeble as well as the strong, by the poor as well as the rich. How many poor women are dependent upon their fowls for a support? Hence we are glad to see those who can afford it, introducing new varieties and improving other sorts, so that improved breeds may be disseminated throughout the whole land. We learn that there were a great many sales made at this show, and if it had no other effect, than that scattering of these various fine breeds, alone will be of great value to the old commonwealth, for it will put money in the pockets of her yeomanry and add to the comfort and fortunes of all her people.

Liebig Co's Coca Beef Tonic:

"Is far superior to the fashionable and illusive preparations of beef, wine and iron," says Professor F. W. HUNT, M. D., Honorary Member Imperial Medical Society of St. Petersburg, Russia, etc., etc. It will reconstruct the most shattered and enfeebled, reinvigorate the aged and infirm, and make sickly children blooming and healthy. Invaluable in female complaints, removing irregularity, pains and exhaustion. Quiets restless children and infants. Beware of worthless imitations.

AN APOLOGY.—We have on our table, the reports of the Professors of Agriculture and of Chemistry, in the Maryland Agricultural College, also other interesting articles from different correspondents, which we are compelled for the want of room to lay aside for the present, having already exceeded our thirty-two pages of reading matter, and circumstances beyond our control delaying a few days the issue of our journal.

Catalogues Received.

Joseph Harris, Rochester, N. Y., Garden and Field Seeds.

Johnson and Stokes, Philadelphia, Pa., Garden and Farm Seeds.

Frank Ford, Ravenna, Ohio, Plants and Seeds.

Hiram Sibley & Co., Rochester, N. Y., Garden, Field and Flower Seeds

J. T. Lovett, Little Silver, N. J. Nursery, Small Fruits.

E. Dillon & Co., Bloomington, Ill., Norman French Horses

B. K. Bliss & Sons, New York City, Garden, Field and Flower Seeds. A handsome book of 140 pages, well illustrated.

D. M. Ferry & Co., Detroit, Mich., Seed Annual. An elegant, beautifully illustrated book of 170 pages. A good hand-book.

J. F. Tillingbast, La Plume, Lack'a Co., Pa., No. 9 of "Seed Time and Harvest," a quarterly Journal.

Henry A. Dreer, Philadelphia, Pa., Garden Calendar.

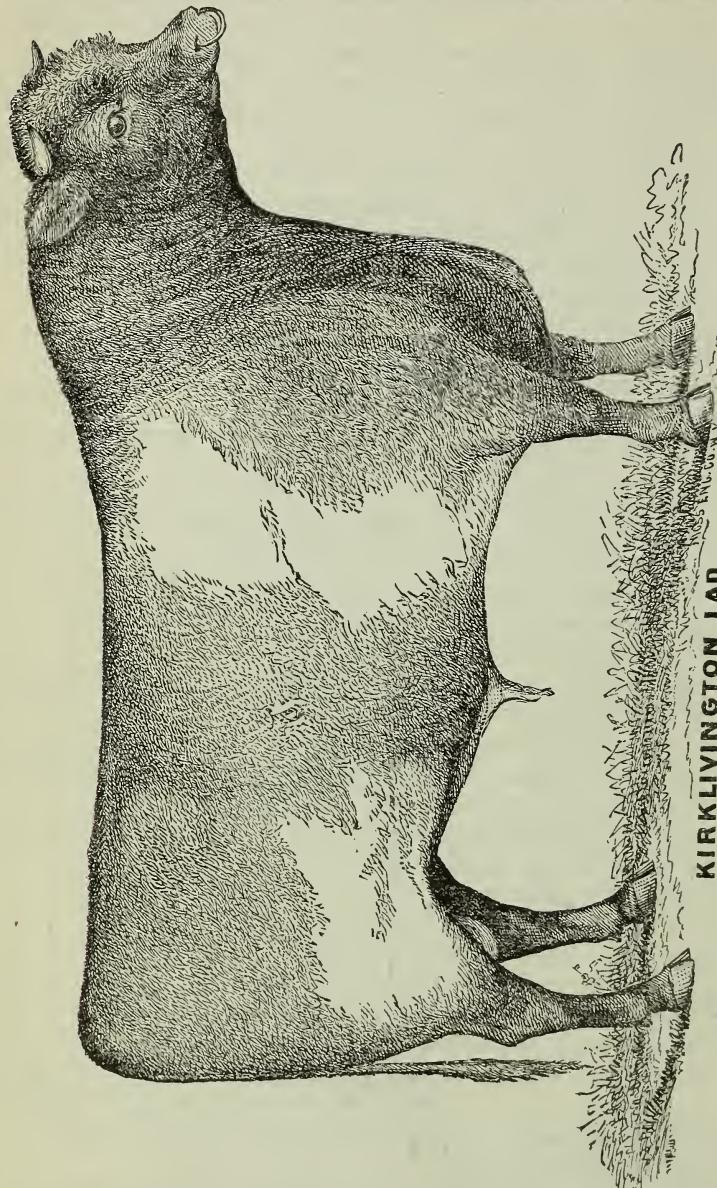
H. S. Anderson Union Springs, Cayuga Co., N. Y. Nursery.

Ellwanger & Barry, Rochester, N. Y., Fruitt and Ornamental Trees, Grapes, and Small Fruits,

J. J. H. Gregory, Marblehead, Mass., Annual Catalogue, illustrated, of Seeds, for garden and farm. Mr. Gregory is one of the oldest and most reliable seedsmen in the United States.

THE KANSAS BREEDERS' INSTITUTE.—The Third Annual Institute under the auspices of the Central Kansas Breeders' Association, was held at Manhattan, February 1st and 2nd, with a good attendance of intelligent and enthusiastic gentlemen engaged in the various branches of live-stock breeding and feeding.

LIVE STOCK REGISTER.



KIRKLEVINGTON LAD.
39528.

We give the above picture of Mr. Emory's splendid young roan bull, "KIRKLEVINGTON LAD," whose appearance attracted so much admiration at the cattle shows of last fall. His pedigree is one of the richest in the country. He took 1st premium at Timonium, Balto. Co., Md., Middleton, Del. and Washington, D. C., fall of 1881. At the Hamilton's sale, Ky., last summer, his two sisters sold for as follows:—Kirklevington Lady Barrington, a yearling, \$1500, and Kirklevington Lady Oxford, 3 years old, \$1515, and her daughter, a heifer calf at \$1025; also her yearling heifer, Kirklevington Lady Oxford, 2nd, at \$1705.

In addition to the sales of Mr. Emory, reported in this number of the Maryland Farmer, we give the following of later sales made by him at the close of the stock-breeders meeting in Baltimore, three head of short-horns for \$1.250. The sales were as follows: To G. A. T. Snouffer, Adamstown, Frederick Co., Md., bull calf from Barrington Bates 12th, by Airdrie's Duke Sycamore, at \$200, and Belle of Lynwood, vol. X. S. H. R., a yearling heifer, at \$150; also Miss Renick Rosette 3d, vol. 22, A. H. B., sired by imported Grand Duke Geneva, 28756, dam Miss Renick Noxubee, at \$900. To E. R. Dennis, Ellicott City, Md., three Berkshire pigs, seven weeks old at \$35. Miss Renick Rosette 3d, who sold for \$900, is a perfect model of a short-horn and was considered at the fairs, last fall, the best two year heifer ever shown in Maryland. She won numerous prizes in fall 1881.

Holstein Cattle.

J. H. S. Monrovia, Frederick Co., Md., enquires about Holstein cattle, and wishes us to inform him as to "their size, butter and milk record, and how long they have been in this country." We answer that they belong to the large class ranking close upon Herefords and Short horns. They have great reputation as milkers, giving on an average, 28 to 32 quarts per day, when in full milk. Some exceptional ones like those of the Syracuse herd, which has an average record of 14,164 lbs. for the entire herd of matured cows for last year. In same herd is Aaggie, with a record of 18,004 lb., 15 oz., for one year; and Netherland Queen, 2 years old, with a record of 13,574 lbs. Several cows of this breed have a record of 16 lbs. 6 oz. of butter, in one week, from the milk of seven days. These also are exceptions, but it shows that they are butter makers though not up to other breeds, Jerseys, &c., in quality of butter, or in quantity proportioned to the amount of milk. They are splendid cattle for cheese making and for the milk hucksters or sellers. They make fine beef

and are a hardy race, bearing confinement better, perhaps, than most any other breed. Their merits are not yet fully appreciated, though they are daily increasing in popularity. They have been many years in this country. We remember the fine specimens of these black and white cattle, Judge Dobbin and other breeders exhibited nearly forty years ago at our State fairs. This breed is certainly as distinct and as remarkable in family characteristics, as any breed of cattle known.

SHEEP.

Cow-bells on sheep, to the front! Last week, Mr. Robertson, on my "Fair View" farm, was attracted by the sheep bells to run to the flock with his gun. He reached it in time to kill a large dog, pursuing it before he had caught a sheep. But for the alarm sounded by a regiment of large bells, the dog would have probably destroyed the greater part of the flock. This is the third time the bells have saved that flock of choice sheep and procured the death of the dogs.

W. VEIRS BOUC.

In Mont. Adv. Jan. 1882.

We can furnish, if applied for soon a few pairs of the choicest Berkshire pigs and also a few Oxford Down ewe lambs of last year, from the best imported stock. Prices low. Enquire soon or these chances may be lost.

THE Ayrshire Breeders' Association held its annual meeting a few days ago at Providence, R. I. Fifty-six members were present, representing various parts of the United States, Canada and Scotland. Forty new members were admitted including John Lorne Stewart, of Scotland. Ex.

The report of proceedings of the Ensilage Congress, New York. For sale at the office of the MARYLAND FARMER. Price 30 cents.

Thousands of ladies have found sudden relief from all their woes by the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, the great remedy for diseases peculiar to females. Send to Mrs. Lydia E. Pinkham, 238 Western Ave., Lynn, Mass., for pamphlets.

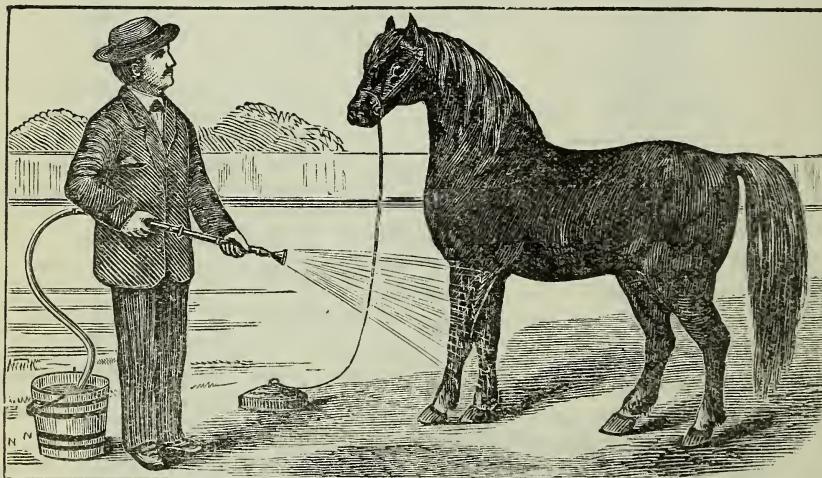
Water Cure for Animals.

A well known writer on diseases of animals, says in the *Country Gentlemen*: "There is no other curative agent so widely distributed, so readily obtained and so easily applied as cold water, I should have called attention to the use of water long ago, for I have always used it in my own practice with the greatest success, but I have never before been able to give a satisfactory method of applying it. Finally, it occurred to me that the Whitman Fountain Pump might be just the thing. I have given it a very thorough trial, and find it satisfactory in every respect. It is simple in construction; not liable to get out of order; is cheap, portable and useful for many other purposes.

All animals, whether horses, mules, cows, bulls, oxen, sheep, or hogs, may be successfully treated with water, with this exceedingly handy and convenient apparatus, for their respective diseases.

Sometimes in case of colic an injection will save life, and many valuable animals have been saved by using the neat and always ready Flexible Injection Nozzle, that we also illustrate, and which is made to be attached to Whitman's Fountain Pump when necessary, instead of the regular short nozzle.

The *American Agriculturist* says, on this subject:—"The common method of giving an injection to an animal, by means of a bladder, and a piece of elder wood, from which the pith has been removed, is sometimes injurious, and at best is clumsy.



The water cure is therefore brought within the means of most farmers."

By keeping the feet of horses clean at all seasons of the year, many diseases are prevented, and, when in dry weather or summer, they interfere and the parts are often necessarily exposed to the dirt and dust of the road, a gentle stream of water, of the right temperature, forced frequently against the sore and bruised places, cleanses them, takes out the inflammation and causes the raw places to heal rapidly.

The Whitman Fountain Pump which we have the privilege of illustrating, is so conveniently used that it is the easy work of a few moments to give any part of the horse a gentle and efficient bath.

A very neat instrument has been devised by the maker of the Fountain Pump. This nozzle is intended to be attached to the Fountain Pump. The liquid to be injected is prepared and put into a pail, is administered in the ordinary manner, the nozzle being oiled or greased. For worms in horses the usual injections of salt and water, or those of warm water, or soapy water for inaction of the bowels, in either cows or horses, may thus be given with ease and safety."

If every stock owner, farmer, and stable keeper, owned one or more of these economical, time saving and efficient Whitman Fountain Pumps, and the Flexible Injection Nozzle, there is not a shadow

of a doubt, but that in less than one season many times their cost could easily be saved, and the health and lives of numerous valuable and highly prized animals preserved. For a handsomely illustrated catalogue and colored plate, describing various other uses of the Fountain Pump, address the patentee and manufacturer, J. A. WHITMAN, Providence, R. I.

Live Stock Breeders' Meeting.

The Maryland Improved Live Stock Breeders Association held its first regular quarterly meeting Feb. 1st, at the office of Mr. Frank Brown, Charles and Saratoga streets. The members present were John E. Phillips, E. B. Emory, G. S. Watts, A. M. Fulford, John G. Clarke, L. W. Downey, T. Alex. Seth, J. F. McMullen, G. A. T. Snouffer, E. G. Merryman, Jesse Tyson, E. S. Hinks, F. Von Kapff, E. C. Legg, S. M. Shoemaker, W. S. Carroll, A. A. McGraw, W. H. Moore, John M. Ripple, W. H. West, C. Lyon Rogers, F. A. Emory, W. F. Johnson, J. L. Adkins, D. C. Trumbull. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, J. G. Clarke; vice president, J. E. Phillips; corresponding secretary, F. Von Kapff; recording secretary and treasurer, T. Alex. Seth; directors, G. S. Watts, A. M. Fulford, E. M. Emory, J. F. McMullen, Frank Brown, Mr. Ezra Whitman, one of the vice-presidents of the American Agricultural Association, was present, and stated that the matter of holding the fair of the association in this city was still held under consideration by the organization. Messrs. C. Lyon Rogers, G. S. Watts and John E. Phillips were appointed a committee to urge the passage of an efficient milk law by the present Legislature. A similar body consisting of E. C. Legg, E. B. Emory and G. A. T. Snouffer, were authorized to visit Annapolis for the purpose of having a dog law passed for the protection of sheep. Mr. T. Alex. Seth read an essay on cattle breeding.

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

Chats with the Ladies for March.

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

MARCH.

"I won ter what spendthrift chose to spill
Such bright gold under my window-sill?
Is it fairy gold? Does it glitter still?
Bless me! it is but a daffodil!"

An I look at the crocuses, keeping tryst,
With the daffodil by the sunshine kissed:
Like beautiful bubbles of amethyst
They seem, blown out of the earth's snow-mist.
And snow-drops, delicate, fairy bells,
With a pale green tint like the ocean swells;
And the hyacinths weaving their perfumed spells!
The ground is a rainbow of asphodels!

Who said that March was a scold and a shrew?
Who said she had nothing on earth to do
But tempests and furies and rages to brew?
Why, look at the wealth she has lavished on you!
O March that blusters and March that blows,
What color under your footsteps glows!
Beauty you summon from winter snows.
And you are the pathway that leads to the rose."

March ushers in spring-time and although sometimes gloomy and cold, yet it has its bright days, when nature seems to burst the icy bonds of winter and give signs of returning youth, beauty and vigor,

If the weather prove genial, the flower garden will need attention, and the shrubbery and roses require trimming or trans-planting. The latter part of the month, the covering of the bulbs may be removed and the beds lightly forked over and raked smooth, that the tender shoots may, the more easily push their way through the earth crust

Could you have seen the splendid display of poultry and pigeons at the late show in Baltimore, of the State Poultry and Pigeon Association, I am sure every one of you would have a pair or more of some of the great variety of breeds of chickens, ducks, geese or pigeons, which were there in large numbers. They were of every color, size and character. The scene was animating, charming and musically noisy. There is great pleasure and much profit in raising choice poultry of every sort. Pigeons of the rare breeds are the prettiest pets a lady can have. How much more beautiful, harmless and esthetic as pets for ladies, are pigeons or birds, than the ugly pug, or the snappish Spitz dogs, or the sleek, hypocritical and spiteful tabby cat.

Every person in the country should have a lawn in proportion to the size of the dwelling. Let me make a few suggestions as to the lawn

Plant such trees as have colored foliage, like Purple Beech, Blood-leaved Peach, Meminger's

The Coca Beef Tonic of the Liebig Company, combined as it is with Coca, quinine and iron, forms a most valuable adjunct to the practice of medicine.

Horse-Chestnuts, and trees desirable for their flowers, such as Virgilea Lutea, Judas Tree, Red Horse-Chestnut, Scarlet Maple and the double flowering sorts of Dogwood, Thorns, Fringe, Peach, Apple, &c. But above all do not fail to have a variety of the Chinese Magnolias. A few weeping or drooping trees, such as Young's Weeping Birch, Mountain Ash, Willows, Elms, &c., properly grouped, and some of the noble Conifers, assigned open, large spaces for development of their full size and beauty. A lawn laid out artistically, with suitable trees of various growths and characteristics, will soon become a charming scene and a growing beauty for years, without much cost and but little labor or expense in keeping. Unlike flowers and shrubbery, requiring daily care, the lawn tastefully and properly planted will be after a few years, self sustaining, increasing in beauty as it grows older, and requiring no care or labor unless an occasional top dressing of manure to benefit the grass, which gradually becomes a rich turf, soft and velvety as a Turkish carpet.

As these familiar chats are intended not only for ladies who are grown up, both wedded and single, but also for the junior members of our families, whom I hold as precious treasures, because one day they will take our places—and who, I have reason to know, take interest in, and profit by my chats, for which I am justly proud, it will, I hope, be excusable in me to introduce here for their special benefit and encouragement two communications lately received. Should these be graciously received by my readers, I will endeavor to get the editor and publisher of the **MARYLAND FARMER** to open a column monthly for the letters of the juveniles.

The first of these is a translation from the French.

THE TURKEY.

"I, myself am decking;
I am big and stutting;
I am all fatness and beauty;
My feathers are black,
Of moire is my back,
My snout is of ruby.

"See my head,
My crest so red,
Look, admire very steady,
The echo is ready
To repeat to you
My solemn glou glou.

"My tail, is it not
Thick, with not a spot?
See, it is a sun;
Nothing shakes and glitters less.

What do you think of it,
Am I not peerless?

"How they quiver
How they glitter,
My feathers so velvety.
Make room, recede,
Let me in my Court proceed
In my triumphant majesty!

Mr Patuxent Planter, the above is a *translation* I made myself, from the French. I am a little girl of ten years old, and go to school at Mrs. Maurice's academy, on Catonsville Avenue, Baito. Co., Md.

E. MILLER."

"Villadama, Mexico, Jan. 15, 1882.

"I dare say you would like to know something about the Mexicans and their habits. I mean the most of them about here. They are of a dark complexion very much like the mulattoes at our home. They live in small huts and eat cakes made of corn mashed up after being boiled in lime-water, which they call *tortas*. The corn is mashed up on a little stone stool.

They eat beans which they call *frejoles* (freeholders). Goat meat seems a favorite. Everything is made very hot with peppers. We get onions, sweet potatoes, cabbage, which are raised here. There are a plenty of eggs, but they charge twenty-five cents a dozen. No butter and milk and still they have plenty of cattle. Goats and sheep are herded by thousands. There are any quantity of little dogs, every house has two or three. The dogs bark after every one that pass on horse or in wagon, so there is a continual barking all the time. There is a kind of little dogs about the size of our terriers with no hair on them at all, except a kind of foretop and a small bunch on tip of tail. They are all of a blueish color, and cannot stand much cold. They raise a good many small donkeys which they call "Burros." They are about four feet high, the biggest part of them is their head and very long ears. They are generally of a brown color with white bellies and a big long tail, bunched at the end. The men guide them with a large stick of wood, which they hit them on the side of their head to make them go. They are very strong and are made to carry very heavy loads, sometimes they bring fodder in on them and you cannot see anything but four legs. We all went out on a picnic to-day, drove over to the mountains where there were some springs. We climbed about one mile up the hills, and we found some peppers which were very hot, I do not want to try them any more, we saw a large eagle on the top of a high peak, shot at him but he was too far off to kill.

The echo was very, *very* plain. I hollowed a good deal and it answered me very plainly, Good night."

T. FRANKLIN.

[The above nice note comes from a valued little friend—not eleven years old—a Maryland boy, now with his parents in Mexico.—P. P.]

For the Maryland Farmer.

Hints about House-keeping.

BY COUSIN MEHITABEL,

[Continued from page 65.]

Meat House, etc.

The mistress must keep an eye to this part of her domain, to see that no predatory creatures intrude. It is presumed that the masculine half of the house-keeping couple, will attend to all the work of cutting up the meat, salting, smoking, packing, &c. If he does not, he does not do his duty. Before meat is smoked, it should be thoroughly rubbed with a paste of common molasses, flour and black pepper. Thicken the molasses with good pepper, putting in flour enough to make all stick well. This will go a great way towards preventing the in-roads of "skippers," but nothing *insures* security except taking down the meat as soon as smoked, and packing it in perfectly tight casks with closely fitting covers, or wrapping the pieces well in paper, and then sewing or tying cloths or bags over them. Old newspapers and pieces of old calico or cotton, answer every purpose. A little trouble at first will do away with all need for that horrible job of spreading all the meat out in the sun and picking over each separate piece, digging and boring after "skippers."

The meat house should be dry, cool, and as dark as practicable to make it. In summer it should be aired after damp weather to prevent mould. A little foresight will secure a pleasant variety of provision in the way of meat.

PICKLED PORK.

Is very nice as a change. It should be made of the best of the fatted meat, cut into pieces of a size convenient for cooking, so that no more be taken out at a time than is wanted to use. Use no saltpetre, but pack down well with coarse salt. Make a very strong brine and pour over it. Keep a heavy weight on top of the meat and a close cover over it.

TONGUES

Beef's tongue is a delicious relish when nicely cured and I can say from experience, that the following recipe will make them nice. Sheep's

and pig's tongues are also very good cured and smoked the same as beef tongues. Tongues are to be had fresh at the butcher's and in the country, are generally very cheap. The recipe is for a dozen tongues.

Cut off most of the root, (soak the roots for two or three hours in water a little salted, drain well, and then use them for soup,) then soak for an hour in a tub of cold water to extract the blood. Mix together a quarter of a pound of finely powdered saltpetre, a pound of brown sugar, and a pint of fine salt. Rub the tongues with this and lay them in a tight barrel. Make a brine that will bear an egg and pour over them. Turn them every three days and let them stay in the brine two weeks. Smoke them two days and keep them in a dry place, secure from flies.

Beef's liver may be cured in the same manner out must remain longer in pickle. For those who like liver, it is very nice chipped thinly and frizzled with cream gravy.

Dried beef, smoked and Bologna sausage, are good to have and not very much trouble to make, nice recipes for all can be found in almost any "cookery" book.

In putting away fried sausage, always use small vessels, well glazed. The common red earthenware is too porous. Good quart bowls are convenient. Tin cans would be nice but they would have to be ordered for the purpose, open at the top and with tight lids like lard cans.

In rendering lard, the fat from the entrails should be soaked over night in clean water, and thoroughly washed in two or three waters till the water will pour off clear. Lard should be cooked steadily all day, taking care that it does not get hot enough to burn. In cutting up, it should be sliced very thin.

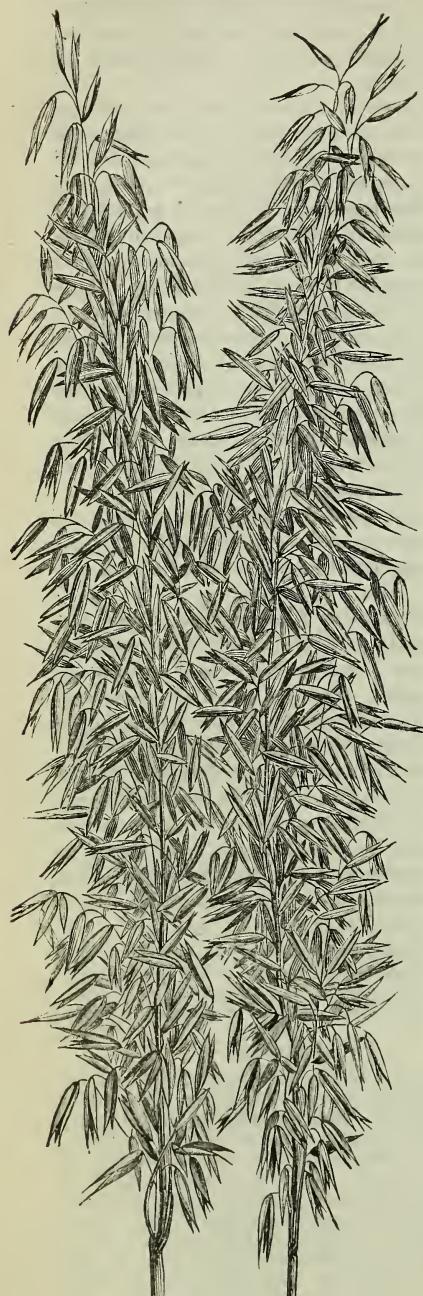
For twenty-two pounds of sausage take half a pound of salt, three heaped table spoonfuls of sage, three of pepper, and two of thyme. If the thyme is not liked, put in another spoonful of sage.

SCRAPPLE.

Take all the skinny bits of meat that will not do for sausage; the ears and noses, the spines off the chines, etc. Boil till so tender that all bones will pick out easily. Strain from the water and chop fine. Do not use the water in which the meat was boiled. Keep it to make a pone for the dog or the cats. Put the chopped meat into clean water. Season it to taste, with salt, pepper, sage, and any sweet herbs that may be fancied. When it boils, thicken with corn meal, and middlings or buckwheat flour, till it is like mush. Dip into pans. When cold, cut in slices, sprinkle well with flour, and fry in hot lard.

"A good supply of fish is a great addition to the commissariat. Harford smoked herring are proverbially excellent."

HORTICULTURAL.



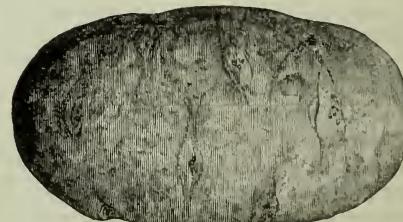
RUSSIAN WHITE OATS.

So much has been written about this new

variety of oats, and such laudatory notices given of it, that we avail ourselves of the kindness of Messrs. B. M. Ferry & Co., Detroit, Mich., to present a cut of these oats as they are seen in the field. This firm was the first to introduce them last year, and they have accounts from every part of the Union, as to their great productiveness, "out-yielding the common varieties from 30 to 100 per cent. and invariably free from rust." It would be well for our farmers to try a small quantity this spring. The Messrs. Ferry & Co., are well known and reliable as seedsmen, and they say of this oat, as follows:—

"Each kernel planted will produce twenty-five to forty heads, from sixteen to twenty-two inches in length; the straw is large and strong enough to support the enormous heads of this variety. The grain is heavy and the chaff light, so that a measured bushel weighs more than a bushel of ordinary oats. We have frequently had *Russian White Oats* that would weigh *forty pounds and over to the measured bushel*. They are peculiarly adapted for feeding purposes, as the berry is so plump and heavy and contains so much meat, that stock can get more nourishment from two bushels of *Russian White Oats* than from three bushels of the ordinary varieties. This fact alone should recommend them to the careful consideration of every farmer in our land."

The same firm furnishes us with this cut of the new *White Star Potato*, and thus speak of it:



WHITE STAR POTATO.

"It originated in 1875, with Mr. E. S. Brownell, who selected it from a large number of seedlings grown from seed balls of the Excelsior, fertilized from the White Peachblow, and has been pronounced by

one who has been familiar with all the new sorts that have been introduced in the last fifteen years to be the coming potato. The vine is strong, semi-erect, branching, a single stem being produced from each eye. The foliage is very abundant and vigorous, the leaves medium sized, smooth, dark green, and stand the sun better than any variety we know of. The tubers are produced abundantly in a compact cluster, are large, oblong, of uniform size and very handsome. The skin is very white and covered with a minute russet netting. The flesh is white, of the finest quality, either baked or boiled, and the variety is one of the best keeping sorts we have on our list. We can confidently recommend this sort as not only the best of the new kinds, but one that will speedily become as popular as the Early Rose, and those who secure seed this spring, will be able to sell all they can raise at a good price."

Grape Culture in the United States.

MR. WM. SAUNDERS' PAPER ON "GRAPE CLIMATES."

In the paper read by Mr. William Saunders, superintendent of the Experimental Garden, on "Grape Climates," before the National Agricultural Convention, in January, he said:—If we plant several varieties of grapes anywhere and give them good cultivation, they will show great difference in growth. Some will grow well and hold their foliage through the season; others will lose their leaves entirely. Next year those that lose leaves will be very feeble, and in some cases will die. In any case the growth will be feeble. If we cover these vines in part with anything that will shade the foliage, we see a fresh foliage preserved during the whole season. This seems due to a drier condition of the leaves. No dew is condensed; extremes of temperature are prevented. This indicates that the soil is covered by moisture condensed in the leaves. Some varieties suffer very little. Now, if we go over the country, there are found some climates where nearly all varieties do equally well. Such are the true grape climates. These

climates are especially noticeable as being along the lake shores and larger streams and on the slopes of the Blue Ridge at an elevation of from 1,400 to 2,000 feet. Heavy dues and frosts are rare in such localities. On the hillsides of the Southern Alleghanies the thermometer does not rise in summer above 80, and the winter is mild. The season is two to three months longer. We find the Chestivolis family of grapes doing exceedingly well there. The finest wines yet made have come from these varieties and on these mountain slopes. The indications thus far show that a grape and wine interest, equal to anything in Europe, is destined to grow up in this favored region. There can be no doubt of the ultimate success of this entire region in the growing of both market grapes and wine of the very finest quality. The foreign varieties cannot be grown there, of course. The native grapes, however, like the Northern Virginia Cynthiana, Derbimart, and the whole family to which they belong, are equal to any grown abroad for wines.

THE PHYLOXERA.

There can be no doubt that this little insect, that works upon the foliage and roots of vines, has wrought great damage. But it is not true that it is the cause of mildew, or the disease which has been for many years the terror of the grape growers of Europe. The phyloxera appeared in great numbers about the year 1852. They will completely destroy vines of feeble growth. Sherry growing varieties *may become* enfeebled and succumb. The effect of drought or excessive moisture may be to injure the vine, and this is often put to the account of the phyloxera. All sorts of injuries may be laid at the door of the phyloxera. We must be careful to discriminate between the various causes that are operative in producing these results. Particularly, we must not expect by any remedy adapted to the one to meet the difficulty caused by the other. The grape grower must guard all points. Climate, soil, variety of grape must all be attended to with intelligent care. When all this is done, there will still be details of treatment, which are equally necessary.

This paper was followed by a very interesting discussion by Prof. Riley, Dr. McMurtrey, Mr. Huser, Col. Daniels, of Virginia, and others.

Quince Culture.

Editors of the Maryland Farmer:—I have a few things of special interest to report on this subject, which I will do in connection with a review of an article in the September number of your valuable paper. A writer says:—"The exceeding slow growth of the quince deters many from attempting its cultivation;" &c. My experience is that it grows rapidly and fruits very early.

I had fine fruit this year on a two year old tree, and on any three year old trees I had as high as half a peck on the best. My eight year old trees were set where they are, in the fall after their first summer's growth from the cuttings, and began to bear when four years old. At five years they averaged half a peck. And have increased regularly a half peck each year. The best tree had this year 185 quinces ripen on it. The crops have averaged about \$2.50 a bushel—this year it was a little more, as there was a scarcity. The finest sold as high as \$1 a peck. The eight year trees averaged \$1.21, which is 25 cents above their average last year.

So far from "the exceeding slow growth," being my experience, it is the very reverse. Last year I reported to you that some of my cuttings had exceeded five feet; and that some of the three year trees exceeded six feet. This year those same trees have exceeded seven feet, and one of them has a shoot of seven feet and seven inches in spite of this dry season. I agree with him in cutting back every year; and from a long shoot of last year cut back half way, I now have side shoots four feet long. Again he says, "Quinces require a heavy soil to come to perfection, and it is useless to attempt to grow them on light, sandy land," &c. Now all my marvellous success has been attained in light and sandy land. I have no other. Perhaps if I had a heavier or moister soil I might do better still. I think any land that will do well with corn or potatoes, will also do well with quinces, if, as he says, they are properly cared for. The proper care is seldom given, and indeed I think few have paid enough attention to the matter to know what care is needed. I usually plant one year trees, and dig two shovel blades deep, making a hole 3 or 4 feet across, which I

fill with rich earth, and cover it with a mulch of leaves or other trash, which prevents a drouth from affecting them, and decaying, adds to the needed fertility. A little salt annually sown under the trees serves the double purpose of keeping the ground moist and fertile.

What he says about pruning so as to "keep them in a modified bush form, instead of trying to make a high-headed tree, I most fully endorse." Besides escaping the liability of damage from high winds, it secures a strength of limbs that better supports a large crop; and then what is produced is of easy access in harvesting. He is right also in commanding thorough culture. On this depends "the increased yield and quality of the fruit." I have seven varieties of quinces now growing and expect to add the eighth in the spring by grafting. I got a stock of the champion quince a year ago, and last spring grafted some of them into stocks of the orange quince. The growth of scions was more satisfactory than the trees from which they were taken. One scion reached about four feet, others ranged from one to three feet.

I am glad to see the picture and description of this variety as you give it in the December number of the *Farmer*. I will help to increase the interest in a most neglected fruit.

The Angiers quince is not often cultivated for fruit, but generally for dwarfing pear trees. It is well suited for this because it has such very strong roots. But it sometimes bears quinces and pears at the same time. I saw two trees this year both having a double top, half pear and half quince; and both parts fruited moderately. The quinces were very yellow, and round, flattened a little at the stem and blossom ends. More anon.

From Yours Truly,
W. W. MEECH.

Chicken Cholera and Gapes.

We call special attention to Stonebraker's Chicken Powders advertised in the *Maryland Farmer*, as this is the season of the year that poultry is most liable to become diseased, it behoves all raising fowls to secure some of these valuable powders. They are said to not only cure cholera and gapes, but greatly increase the production of eggs,

For the Maryland Farmer:

Early Tomatoes.

Every land owner, no matter whether they are on a large farm, or merely have a couple of acres, should endeavor to have a full and constant supply of all kinds of vegetables for house use, and should have them as early in the season as it is possible to have them. Tomatoes are one of the most healthy and appetizing, as well as the easiest grown vegetable we have under general cultivation, though there are hundreds of farmers who do not grow a basketful a year, and what few they use are bought in the nearest town or from their more sensible neighbors.

To have extra early tomatoes, when a regular hot-bed is not on the place, sow the seed, after soaking in luke-warm water over night, in a box of good, light and finely pulverized earth, keeping the box where the sun will strike it the most part of the day, through the windows. As soon as the plants show themselves well above ground, water them frequently, and thin them out, as occasion may require, to get stouter and stronger plants. When these are large enough to set out, the weather is generally mild enough for them to be planted out of doors. Selecting the earliest and best fruit for seed, each year, the quality as well as the earliness is much increased, and the seed always sure to germinate.

E. Jr.

CELESTY boiled in milk and eaten with the milk served as a beverage, is said to be a cure for rheumatism, gout, and a specific in cases of small-pox. Nervous people find comfort in celery.

NOT A MYTH.—Some people believe that there is no such person living as Mrs. L. E. Pinkham, whose genial face is seen in the advertising columns of over six thousand newspapers of this country, but it is a fact. The Burlington, Vt. Free Press, says: "This estimable lady, who has done so much for her sex, is hale and hearty, living in a pleasant home in Lynn, Mass. Her son attends to the manufacturing of the medicines in a large factory near her house.

A Conference over the National Exposition Project—Nothing decided.

A meeting of gentlemen interested in a proposed exposition of American products by the American Agricultural Association was held at Barnum's Hotel February 24th, for an interchange of views, although it was not anticipated that any definite action would be taken at this time. Among those present were Hon. N. T. Sprague, of Vermont, president of the association; Hon. J. F. Kinney, of Iowa; A. B. Greggory, of Illinois; Ezra Whitman and A. M. Fulford, of Maryland; Clark W. Mills, of New Jersey, and Joseph H. Reall, of New York, secretary of the association and editor of its journal; W. W. Spence and Joseph H. Rieman, of the Board of Trade; J. R. Mordecai and S. G. Crocker, of the Corn and Flour Exchange; W. S. Synington and C. Farris Pitts, of the Chemical Fertilizer Exchange, and T. Alexander Seth, J. G. Clarke, J. E. Phillips, G. S. Watts, Frank Brown, of the Maryland Live Stock Breeders' Association. Mr. Whitman called the meeting to order, and Mr. Spence was elected chairman, with Mr. Seth as secretary. Hon. N. T. Sprague, as president of the American Agricultural Association was called upon to address the meeting. Speaking of the association, he said that it was national in its aim and character, and represented not only the agricultural industry of the country, but every interest dependent upon it. We have, he said, about one thousand members, including the leading men in agricultural and kindred pursuits in every State of the Union. A national fair or exposition has long been under discussion, and at the recent national convention, held under the auspices of the association, and which was composed of leading men from all sections of the country, resolutions were adopted for the holding of such a fair. New York and other cities are holding out inducements for its location, but we have felt it a duty, as it is a pleasure to respond to the kind invitation of the trade and other organizations of your city. The fair or exposition we propose to hold, is intended to include every product of the soil, and it is suggested that it be made to represent every American industry, art, science and education. It is believed a fair may be held which will be greater in its proportions and effects than

the Centennial Exposition, leaving out the foreign exhibits, and that the time has arrived for holding such a national exposition. Wherever held, it will receive the earnest support of the people of all the States, and its benefits to the locality that may be chosen will be beyond computation. The late fair at Atlanta was a grand success, bringing together from every section of the country, men of science, and practical men, and there, side by side, were the plow, the anvil, and the loom. The lessons learned will bear fruit to this generation a hundredfold for their welfare, through prosperity, and the education that necessarily follows prosperity. Neither the soldier who commands armies for the subjugation and annexation of peoples, nor the admiral who conquers the control of the seas, is of such consequence to the prosperity of nations, as he, who under the impulse of principles that his franchise establishes, turns the furrow, plants the seed and gathers the harvest. The man who does this, is a free man under our form of government. To the intelligence necessary to this free man our association is intended to contribute. Col. Sprague concluded by expressing the pleasure it afforded himself and colleagues of the committee, to come to Baltimore and Maryland, where two of the most active members of the association, Messrs. Whitman and Fulford belonged.

JUDGE KINNEY'S REMARKS.

Judge Kinney, following Col. Sprague, recited the action taken by the association up to the present time in the matter under consideration, reading certain resolutions which were adopted in convention, and which serve to explain the aims and desires of the association. With further interesting remarks, Judge Kinney concluded with a high eulogium upon President Sprague.

Then followed a very general expression of opinion from the gentlemen present concerning the proposed exposition. Mr. Spence thought the time entirely too brief, in which to gain the views of those likely to interest themselves in the movement. He had no doubt that Baltimore would be glad to have the exposition held here, if the necessary means could be raised.

Col. Sprague said he had warm personal feelings towards Baltimore, and would be

personally gratified to have the exposition held here.

Inquiry being made as to grounds near Baltimore, Mr. Frank Brown spoke of Pimlico, which contained 73 acres, (the association needs 100 acres, it is understood,) and said that undoubtedly grounds adjoining could readily be secured. Mr. J. H. Rieman thought perhaps other and more suitable grounds than Pimlico might be had.

Mr. T. Alex. Seth, president of the Maryland Live Stock Breeders' Association, volunteered to take the committee out to Pimlico, and to other points about Baltimore, that they might see for themselves whether suitable grounds might be obtained, but the committee, not having the time, were compelled to decline the proposition. Mr. Seth also thought the program as mapped out by Judge Kinney, including arts, sciences, education, &c., now here, where the people were looking for an exhibition purely agricultural and mechanical. Colonel Sprague, replying to Mr. Seth, said the design was to exhibit the products of the country, and to give such an exhibition as would reflect credit upon the American Agricultural Association, and upon the city where the exhibition was held. The meeting finally adjourned after passing a vote of thanks to the gentlemen of the Association.

[On reading the above extracts from the *Baltimore American*, some idea can be formed of the much talked of Exposition. All agree as to the great advantages and necessity of such an exposition, but fail to agree as to the time or place, when and where it is to be held. Much has been said as to the amount of money that will be required. It is quite proper to discuss this point, and opinions have been freely expressed, estimates have been made and some of them published, to the great injury of the Association, I think, as they were all based upon the supposition that the exposition was to be held in New York city. Now to secure 100 acres of land in that city, on which to hold the fair, and building railroads to it, and erecting brown stone, marble or iron structures suitable in size and style to meet the views and taste of aristocratic New Yorkers, two or three, or five millions could easily be expended and perhaps thought to be necessary. But to hold an exposition in Baltimore, the whole

programme would be properly changed. Considering the economical manner in which Baltimore expends money in erecting public buildings and making her improvements, it is believed, if a stock company incorporated here, with a cash capital of \$250,000, that amount will be sufficient to carry out all the plans for the extended exposition, with the strongest probability of the full amount being returned to the stockholders. But in case this stock company cannot be gotten up, we then have Pimlico and the plan for an exhibition on a more limited scale to fall back on.

In the first place we have already 73 acres at Pimlico, and if 27 more are needed, that addition can readily be secured. 2nd. There is a railroad now running directly into the grounds, and upon the grounds now, one of the best mile race tracks in the country, a great number of horse stables, cattle stalls, and pens for stock, a very large, open stand and a grand stand that will seat 5000 persons, and also a beautiful club house equal to a first-class city hotel.

In an interview had by the committee of the American Agricultural Association with ex-Gov. Bowie, he stated that 50,000 people could be daily carried from this city to Pimlico and returned, on the present railroad, and if that road had not enough cars to accommodate the crowd of visitors, his road, the Balto. and Potomac would supply any deficiency. Here then, we have three great and important matters already at hand.

As regards the money necessary to erect the required buildings, it will depend upon circumstances. It is well known some of the buildings, fences and fixtures at Pimlico are out of order, and to put them in good repair, and erect such other buildings as the State society absolutely need, will require probably \$25,000. After these repairs are made, in my opinion, \$125,000 more, economically expended to erect other buildings, would furnish all the room and conveniences that the American Agricultural Association could want to make the exposition a success. Col. Sprague has said that wherever it is held, it *must* be a success, and both a credit to itself and to the place where it is held. I think if the above programme be carried out, it must prove a success financially and in every other way, redounding more to the credit of all concerned than if one were gotten up

at a cost of two to five millions that should prove a financial failure. An exposition in Baltimore can easily be arranged to be held during this year, but if the project of expending millions be adopted, then much time, perhaps two years, will be required necessarily to handle and manage so much money.

For these reasons, as a member of the American Agricultural Association, I am in favor of holding the exposition this year, which is carrying out the pledges of the association. Let the directors select the place and time and go to work at once. I hope it may be that Baltimore will be selected. If so, I suggest, that upon \$50,000 being subscribed by individuals in this city, that the Legislature be asked for the same amount on the part of the State, and also the same from the city of Baltimore, making in all \$150,000, a sum sufficient to carry out all the plans of the association that to me appear necessary for the exhibition if held at Pimlico.] W.

The National Forestry Convention.

Which it is proposed to hold in Cincinnati, in April, is attracting the attention of persons interested in the subject to which it relates. This is a vital question to the people of the Atlantic States, and we hope Maryland and her sister States will be fully represented. The American Forest Association will, we learn, also meet at the same time and place. This will be a double inducement for persons to attend. Those who cannot attend but feel disposed to write essays on the subject, will please address the same to Dr. Jno. A. Warder, North Bend, Ohio.

FELL AGAINST A SHARP EDGE—This is furnished by Mr. Wm Will, 1613 Frankford Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.: Some time since I received a severe injury to my back, by falling against a sharp edge of a marble step, the stone penetrating it at least a half-inch, and leaving a very painful wound. After suffering for a time, I concluded to apply St. Jacobs Oil, and am pleased to say, that the results exceeded my expectations. It speedily allayed all pain and swelling, and by continued use, made a perfect cure. I really think it the most efficacious liniment I ever used.—*Rockford, Ill., Register.*

OBITUARY.

With sorrowing hearts we announce the death of an elder brother of the editor and proprietor of this journal. Mr. Luther Whitman, the deceased, was born in Bridgewater, Mass., March 10, 1802, and died in Winthrop, Maine, Thursday, January 26, 1882, nearly 80 years old.

He leaves a wife, to whom he was married almost a half century ago, six sons and one daughter. His six sons are well-known to the manufacturing world as enterprising business men. The four oldest sons have one of the largest manufactories for agricultural implements and machinery in the Western States, located at St. Louis, Mo.

"Of his eminent public life the journals of his State have borne eloquent tributes. Of his domestic relations, social position and private worth, we prefer restraining our sentiments and quoting the language of the "*Winthrop Weekly Budget*," a paper published at his home and reflecting the feelings of the people among whom he associated, to whom he was best known and by whom he was duly appreciated.

"Our esteemed townsman Luther Whitman quietly and peacefully passed over to that land "from whose bourne no traveller ever returns" Thursday, Jan. 26, after a painful sickness of several weeks duration. When the swift messenger removes from our midst one who for a great many years has been identified with the growth and varied interests of our town, it seems fitting as well as appropriate to extend the ordinary obituary notice to a brief outline sketch of the life and public services of the deceased. As an inventor he will ever rank high among those who have benefited the world by their useful inventions. In 1832 he commenced taking out patents on threshing machines and continued to make improvements on them for several years, and he is undoubtedly the original inventor of the threshing machine in America. It is said, and probably truthfully, that there is not a threshing machine in use in America to-day that does not use his patents. He also invented

the revolving horse-rake, hundreds of thousands of which have been used, and it is really the best horse-rake ever made. In Mr. Whitman's death, the town loses a good citizen; the village where he passed so many years of his life, a kind and obliging neighbor; his wife and children an affectionate husband, a kind and indulgent father. His memory will be kept green by those who knew him best. He was a great sufferer for a few weeks previous to his decease, but his end was peaceful, and in the sweet slumbers of ripened manhood he passed quietly into the presence of God. May peace go with him to his eternal home.

"Life's race well run;
Life's work well done;
Life's crown well won;
Now comes rest."

SALE OF MR. WALTER'S PERCHERONS.—We call attention to the sale of these fine animals, advertised in this number of the *Farmer*, to take place the 22d of this month. Breeders of road and draft horses never had before in this State such an opportunity to obtain choice specimens of the purest blood of this admirable breed. They are all of fine size and symmetry. The Messrs. Walter have by their importations conferred a great boon upon our agricultural community, and we have no doubt a large crowd will be attracted and the purchasers at the sale will be remunerated. Catalogues may be had at the office of the *Maryland Farmer*.

THE NEW SHEEP DIP:—We call attention to the advertisement of T. W. Lawrence, agent for sale of this very valuable Sheep Dip. We are satisfied from the number of testimonials of reliable persons, that it is a preparation which should be in possession of not only every sheep owner but of every farmer, as it is valuable in the treatment of all kinds of stock and for destruction of plant enemies.

"A GIRL'S CHOICE."

It was in a drug store of course. All interesting incidents occur in drug stores,—that is nearly all. She was pretty, with blue eyes and golden hair, one of that kind of beauties the poet would have called an "angel," but for the fact that a colony of pimples on her fair frontis piece precluded all thought of a celestial being. Bowing timidly to the handsome clerk, she asked for "Swayne's Ointment for skin diseases," and upon receiving it vanished like the morning dew before the summer sun.

THE Ensilage Congress held in January and the report of its proceedings, published by Mr. J. B. Browne, we had intended to notice fully in this number but we are precluded for want of room, and defer it to our April number, which we design to make an ENSILAGE NUMBER. In it we shall enumerate the kinds of crops most suitable for ensilage, the mode of their cultivation and preparation for the silo; the different ways of building silos, with the cost, and also the ascertained cost of the ensilage when prepared as also its value as food for stock, together with the experience of many who have experimented with this new method of preserving green crops. Having always been favorably impressed, and repeatedly urged our farmers to test the system, and from late visits to some of the best built silos in the country, which confirmed us in our opinion as to its great importance, we will give our readers in the April number all the information we can collect.

Errata.—On page 68 the type-setter has failed to make the proper division of figures in the account of Enterprise Club. It should read 6 and 1-10 barrels of corn, and 1 and 1-6 tons of hay.

“THE DOMESTIC TYRANT.”

“The average man,” quoth Mrs. Partington, “is a weak and irritable domestic tyrant,” and Mrs. P. is correct. Tyranical to a fault the average man will enter the blissful Paradise of a happy home, scratch himself in fiendish glee, send the baby into convulsions, and for what? Why, because he has the Itching Piles, and is too mean to buy Swayne’s Ointment which is an infallible cure for the worst cases of that annoying complaint.

WE are in receipt of some beautifully executed chromo-lithographic seed packets from D. LANDRETH & SONS, of Philadelphia, the pioneer seedmen of this continent. The artistic designs and coloring are so true to nature and superior to the ordinary illustrations as to be beyond comparison. But the merit of illustration is not the most important feature, ‘tis the *contents* of the packets, and the quality.

For the Maryland Farmer.

A Farmer’s Ramble.

During the latter part of November, we gathered our carpet bag from its place of concealment and procured a passage upon a steamer for the Queen City, and from thence by way of the Cincinnati Southern through Kentucky. There were many farmers on board the steamer, and all were visibly affected with the “grumbles.”—Short crops, early summer rains and floods and fall drouth, were their principal grounds of complaint during our entire passage, and at each landing their ranks were increased by others having the same epidemic. We endeavored to enliven them by reference to the high prices they were receiving for all farm products, but to no avail, they were doubtless of the chronic class.

The Cincinnati Southern Railroad passes through that justly celebrated blue grass region of Kentucky, but who has not read to surfeit of that region, yet no language can half express the admiration and envy of the stranger, as he beholds the bewitching beauty that nature has magnanimously bestowed on that section around Lexington. We observed very fine specimens of the Shorthorn breed leisurely cropping the luxuriant herbage of that more than primitive Eden. At Danville, we had an opportunity of closely inspecting quite a number of cattle in the yards. We were astonished at the number of fine bred animals fed for the shambles. We have frequently seen far inferior animals in the North and West, sold at high figures for breeding purposes.

It is now very clear to us why Kentucky bears the palm in the production of horses and cattle. Nothing but the very best is retained for breeders. From Danville, we continued on down to Eubanks, in Pulaski county. Here the scene has changed as if by the touch of the magician’s wand. We are now in the timber district. No grass, no grain, nothing but the woodman’s ax to enliven the scene. After a three mile tramp, we arrived at the residence of Mr. A. Johnson, the proprietor of the Miami Valley herd of Poland China swine. Mr. Johnson knows a good hog when he sees it, as is evident from an inspection of his

stock. He has lately moved here from Greene county, Ohio, to engage in the timber business, but adhering to his first love, he transferred the "Miami Valley Herd" to his new home.

We were pleased to note all through Kentucky that the spotted beauties were "rooting," out all other breeds of Swine. Kentucky knows what to invest in. Back again to Junction City, we took the train on the L. & N for Louisville where we arrived in time to attend the sale of Jerseys that was held at that place by J. E. Mooney & Co. There were 60 head in the lot, but not being an admirer of the Jerseys, we did not wait until sale was over but took passage for Cincinnati, and from thence to Chillicothe, intending to attend the sale of North Devons by John Blake, but upon arriving in Chillicothe, we found we were to late for the sale, so did not go farther and again returned to Cincinnati. Visited stock-yards here, where we again viewed some of the finest specimens of cattle and swine we have ever seen collected in one body. Being now at the home of the Poland Chinas, we took especial interest in the swine in the pens awaiting their turn to furnish toothsome hams for our cousins over the Atlantic, and nearly every animal there was either a pure-bred or cross-bred Poland China. We next found ourselves standing at the station of the little town of Oberia in Northern Ohio, but my time for rambling having about expired and could not visit the various breeders of fine stock in that section, but understood that the great majority of stock was going into the winter in very fine condition.

F. D. B.

Chemical and Fertilizer Exchange.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the Chemical and Fertilizer Exchange, held at the office, Second street, on the 27th ult., the following officers and directors were elected for the ensuing year. Charles J. Baker, president; W. S. Symington, vice-president; W. S. Powell, treasurer; A. De Ghequier, secretary. Board of directors: Charles J. Baker, W. S. Symington, W. S. Powell, W. S. Dunan, Wm. J. Davison, Robert Ober, W. Morris Orem. Executive committee—W. S. Dunan, chairman, Wm. J. Davison, Robert Ober.

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